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The Bombay Chronicle

Founder:
PHEROZESHAH MEHTA

WEEKLY

Editor:
SYED ABDULLAH BRELVI

Vol. III No. 49 BOMBAY: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1944 PRICE FOUR ANNAS

Vim and Vigour

Photo: Nilu Bhatt.

Maker Of Divine Melody

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Another Fable—Not From Aesop's!

THE SECOND INTERVIEW

By B. G. GUPTE

"Whenever the tiger perspires large drops of whisky appear all over his body."

"How am I to proceed?" asked me my chum Mr. Motiram, after telling me about his interview with the talking tiger.

Yes, the tiger could talk. For the last thirty years or so, he had been living on human flesh and blood alone. Living on human flesh and blood, had given him a human voice. It had also given him the English tongue; because most of the men he killed and ate knew English very well.

And that great talking tiger was now suffering from indigestion. He had killed and eaten a man who was serving as a supervisor in the greatest foundry in the whole world. The man had served there so diligently, assiduously and honestly that his very breath reeked of steel and all his bones, sinews, muscles and intestines had turned into first class steel.

And our tiger had eaten that steel man. As a remedy for that indigestion of his, he was observing a two month's fast. But my chum Mr. Motiram had suggested him to eat a few waggon-loads of starving people as a cure for indigestion.

The grand idea was that the starving people, after entering into the tiger's spacious stomach, would eat greedily and voraciously all the undigested remains of the steel man and automatically the tiger would be cured of his indigestion.

The tiger had liked that grand idea. He appreciated it greatly. And in his manly and kingly voice the jungle-king had ordered my chum to get for him a dozen waggon-loads of starving people.

My chum Mr. Motiram told me all this and then most solemnly he put me the question "How am I to proceed?"

"You must proceed on the right lines." I answered.

"What do you mean by that?" Queried my chum.

"You must apply to the proper authorities for the precious consignment." I answered.

"And suppose I apply to the proper authorities, whoever they may be, for that most precious consignment, what do you think the authorities will do when they will receive my application?" He asked.

"What?" I queried.

"Most modestly, they will simply write to me 'Your request cannot be granted.' And there the matter will end. But if some mischievous person like you gives out, that I had applied to the authorities for a dozen waggon-loads of starving people, the whole town will take me to be a madman. Children will pelt stones at me. Their elders will mock and sneer at me and all will try their best to make my life a veritable hell for me."

I smiled slily.

"No my friend!" He continued. "I don't want to make a hell of my whole life. I wish to pass my life peacefully and quietly. I will never write that wretched and preposterous application."

"Then what are you going to do?" I queried.

I shall go straight to the tiger and tell him plainly that I am unable to do his bidding. "Said he with vehemence.

"Don't do it man! The tiger will eat you alive—with your clothes on. Mind, how dear the cloth is and how high are the tailoring charges these days." I warned.

"No fear of being eaten by the tiger. He is observing a two month's fast. And as for my clothes, they are already old and worn."

"But my chum! It is a tiger's fast. And he will break it any moment he likes." I warned.

"No matter! It is better to be eaten by a man-eater than go through all the horrible after effects of sending that preposterous application." Said my chum heroically and walked down the steps of my house.

But I called after him and stopped him on the road and said, "When are you going to see the tiger again?"

"To-morrow." Was the prompt reply.

"But you have not got a holiday to-morrow." I said.

"I shall take a day off for that". He said and began to walk away. I again stopped him and said, "Please see me after your second interview with the man-eater and please let me know the result."

"I shall do it surely," He promised and walked away.

*

It was 9 p.m. the next day. I was sitting in the verandah of my house in an easy-chair. My chum Mr. Motiram came running up the steps and sank into a chair nearby.

"The second interview was most successful," He exclaimed.

"How did the tiger take the news?" I queried.

"There was no need of my telling it to him. No sooner did he see me from afar, than he greeted me with the words, "Well my friend! I do not need your starving contingent now. I have thought deeply over the matter and have come to this conclusion. The starving people might be carrying different kinds of disease germs in their blood and I do not wish to make myself a depository of all the dirty diseases of the whole world."

"I was glad to hear these words. I seated myself very comfortably beside my friend the man-eater and prepared myself for a most friendly and happy chat." Said my chum proudly.

"Did he tell you anything more about his jungle-life?" I queried.

"We wished to have a happy chat together but presently the burly figure of the beater—the tiger's friend, loomed in the distance with a load of empty whisky bottles on his head.

"Empty whisky bottles?" I queried.

"Did I not tell you that the tiger ate a great Excise Officer long ago? Well, since that time, whenever the tiger perspires, large drops of whisky come all over his body. He collects all those whisky drops—his perspiration, very carefully in the bottles supplied to him by the beater. He gives two dozen whisky bottles as a bribe to the beater for informing him about a beat beforehand. Did I not tell you all this?"

"Yes, yes. I remember it now. What happened next?" I asked.

"No sooner did the beater come near than he said to the tiger, "Well, Waghoba! there is going to be a beat to-morrow. Hide yourself anywhere beyond Aai-Mari-Nallah and then no Saitan will molest you. And remember, this time I want my Divali Baksheesh."

"What Baksheesh do you want?" Asked the tiger benevolently.

"Two dozen whisky bottles!" Burst out the beater.

"You will have them." Said the tiger.

Hearing the tiger's words, the beater was so much overjoyed that he began to dance wildly and madly with that empty-bottle-load on his head. In that mad and wild dance of his the bottle-load fell on the ground with a loud crash and the bottles were broken. The beater suddenly stopped in his dance and the next moment, heart-rending shrieks began to come out of his cavernous mouth. He collapsed down on the ground and lay there writhing and wriggling.

I could stand the shrieks no longer. I put my fingers in my ears. After the first burst of shrieks was over, sobbing and crying began to emanate from the deep cavity which was commonly known as the beater's mouth.

The beater was lamenting the loss of his empty bottles. "Ah! where shall I get new bottles now? The bottles are very dear and one cannot get them even at a high price. Ah! What will become of me now? How shall I get money by selling whisky?"

The tiger tried to comfort him, but it was of no use. At last the tiger said, "I shall give you five dozen bottles full of whisky this time, —two dozen as usual, two dozen as the Divali Baksheesh and one dozen to compensate for this loss of yours."

No sooner did the tiger utter these words than all that shrieking, sobbing, and crying stopped automatically. The beater came to a sitting position and soon there was an apology of a smile on his broad face. Slowly the smile gathered strength and at last it burst out into a loud happy and hearty laughter.

The tiger was marking with interest all that changing phenomena. He at last said to the beater, "Please see whether some of the bottles are intact."

The beater began to rummage most anxiously and assiduously for undamaged bottles. Fortunately, he found six bottles quite undamaged. There was not even a slight crack on them. He showed them to the tiger most joyfully.

The tiger looked at them for a while and said thoughtfully, "I shall break my fast on these bottles, a month from now. I shall digest them thoroughly. And then every time I shall sneeze, two brand new bottles will come out of both my nostrils simultaneously."

Then looking at the beater the tiger continued, "And then my friend! You will never be put to the botheration of bringing all those empty bottles here back. You can safely sell them and get some extra money for your kids. That will be one of your paying side businesses.

Hearing the tiger's words and knowing what a great factory of wonders the tiger was, the beater again began to dance wildly in his mad joy.

I thought that this second dance of his would never come to an end. I and the tiger had both become hopeless about it. But suddenly there were deep ringing noises in the heart of the great jungle. The beater suddenly stopped in his mad wild dance. We began to listen to that ringing sound attentively.

*

I looked wonderingly at the tiger.

The tiger was observing a two-months' fast.

The tiger smiled and said, "Did I not tell you about that supervisor of the greatest foundry, whom I ate?"

"Yes, yes, that man whose very breath reeked of iron and whose sinews muscles, intestines and bones were all first class steel!! What about him? You ate him whole, is it not?"

"No. That was an over-statement of mine," said the tiger. "No, mortal could have eaten him whole. I left out his heart. It was even impossible to touch it."

"What did you do with it?" I asked.

"I left it in that open space in the jungle," answered the tiger.

"Then what is the connection between that heart and these ringing noises?" I queried.

"Why, man! that heart is growing larger and larger every day and it is building itself into a great foundry!!" The tiger answered.

"Then, within a year or two, the greater part of this jungle will be occupied by a great steel foundry?" I asked in wonder.

"No doubt about it!" Exclaimed the tiger convincingly. After a short pause he added solemnly, "If things go on happening like this and at such a rapid rate, India will be industrialised in no time!"

"And that too without any capital or labour." I added with equal solemnity and then we parted," concluded Mr. Motiram.

The 'talking tiger' is talking again!

Those who read our contributor's first interview with this vocal 'Lord of the Jungle,' published some weeks ago, will enjoy this 'second interview', too. Those who didn't will be glad to make the acquaintance of the tiger who speaks English.

Hitler's Human Torpedoes

ENCOUNTER IN THE CHANNEL

By Vernon Brown

The strangest battle of the war was fought in the English Channel soon after D-Day. Bright moonlight lit up a line of ships that formed one of the greatest cross-Channel convoys since the Allied landing.

A naval motor launch carving her way through the sea suddenly swerved. There was a burst of fire from her guns and then a wireless message crackled from the launch. The three-word signal was: "Have contacted "humans." Within a short time every naval craft in the area was racing to the scene.

It was the first attack by Hitler's mysterious 'one-man torpedoes.'

It is possible today to tell the full story of the amazing battle that followed and of how the Navy broke the threat from this new German weapon. Hitler had decided that the human torpedo should make its de but on an impressive scale. He had mustered them at his Channel ports and threw many into action in this bold bid to devastate our assault supplies.

The human torpedoes advanced to attack in a great fleet. Watchers on our naval craft could see countless tracks in the water and the glass cupolas that sheltered their pilots.

"It was an extraordinary sight," I was told. "Just as if the sea was covered with black beetles. We could see them everywhere."

The first to attack was the Navy's light coastal forces—motor torpedo boats and fast motor launches.

"There were so many of the torpedoes that we were bewildered for a time," the Commanding Officer of one of the M.T.B.'s told me. "We found at least six of them grouped around our own boat. We rammed one and then opened up on the rest with everything we had got. For the first time in the war, there were chaps on our bridge engaging the enemy with revolvers and rifles. They sent bullets into the glass domes and all around we could see the Germans throwing up the domes and surrendering. How many we ourselves sunk it is impossible to say. We had no sooner got rid of one lot, than another set appeared. They seemed to appear like ants. Other ships were having a similar time and enjoying it just as much as ourselves. All around could be seen the Germans floating in the sea in their life-jackets."

The battle went on for some time. When it ended, nearly the whole of the great fleet of torpedoes had been destroyed. The pilots of many of the torpedoes were in fact picked up from the sea.—"News Chronicle" War Number.

Reporter: "You've been fifty years in the same job and walked six miles to it every day! Why didn't you move nearer your work?"

Old Employee: "I never knew whether it would be permanent or not."

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Maker Of Divine Melody

Faiyaz Khan—As A Maestro And A Man

By Miss ZAHRA MAHMOOD

THE very first time I heard Ustad Faiyaz Khan, I experienced a medley of emotions which it would be impossible to describe.

They were so varied, so swiftly changing from the pleasant to the painful, so deep and yet so conflicting that it was difficult to connect them with my normal personality.

His music moved one to unknown depths by its magnificence, its vastness of range its epic quality. It opened entirely new and unknown avenues of my experience. It pleased and yet terrified me. It made me cry out with pain. It was like a sea, now calm and without a ripple, now rising in fury and enveloping everything in its mighty waves. It was sweet and tender like a mother crooning her baby to sleep and it was destructive on a cosmic scale like Shiva destroying the universe.

Leonine Dignity

I may be fearfully wrong in my interpretation but such was the effect his music had on me. I went to every conference, obtained invitations to every private gathering that lay within my reach and enriched and tormented my soul with his art. His music left me in a state of such utter bewilderment that my friends remarked on the peculiar expression on my face. I became curiously sensitized to his presence so that on two occasions I told my friends that he was outside although we had been sitting listening to bad music in a carefully closed hall.

I have seen faces which were beautiful or ugly or merely commonplace, which radiated goodness or strength or brilliance of intellect, which had evil written in every line or which proclaimed long and terrible suffering, but I had never seen a face which reflected a personality so consumed with the power of its own genius —a personality holding its volcanic emotions under an iron control.

He is leonine in his fierce dignity. The awe, almost the fear in which his disciples and even close contemporaries hold him, his peculiar power of dominating without effort the most flippant and unmusical audiences numbering in thousands, his long and undisputed sway over the world of serious music for years, were factors which had made him a superman in my eyes.

We Become His Hosts

In this background of awe and reverence, consider my nervousness when once I and my brother were asked by one of the organizers of a Music Conference to put him up at my house as fitting arrangements for the great Ustad could not be made anywhere else in the town. Before we could stammer out our hesitation, the thing had been settled and we were conducted to the car outside the pandal in which Khan Saheb was waiting. He was wearing the familiar black Sherwani and the Irani cap which suits him so well. For additional warmth he was wearing over his Sherwani a Kashmiri dressing gown.

We were introduced as his prospective hosts. He acknowledged my salute with a nod and extended a large hand for my brother to shake and then leant back in the car with an air of great resignation. When we arrived at my house he descended with slow deliberation and surveyed my house with mild interest. It is large and rambling and old-fashioned—a hybrid of the old and new in architecture. "It is a good house, very picturesque," he remarked and relapsed into silence.

We felt awkward and ill at ease as it was clear that he had no small talk no social commonplaces to keep the conversation going. "I am very glad to have come here. I have a horror of hotels" he said at last. "It is a great honour," I managed to mumble. "It is only great bother for you," he said and smiled. I was so tongue-tied. I made some excuse and went off to look for breakfast. The simple breakfast of eggs, bread and butter pleased him. He eats astonishingly little —the yellow of two eggs, the softer part of two small slices of bread and a little butter dissolved in hot tea. Then a few half cupfuls of tea.

A Hint To Hostesses

He has no consciousness of the passage of time. A meal is announced, he says he is coming. Half an hour passes, the dinner gets cold, the fat congeals in the gravy and he does not rise. The dinner is sent to be heated again. "Where is the dinner?" he asks when he comes at last. Every one smiles. "It has grown cold. It has been sent to be heated", says some one. "Oh! I am late. I am sorry. You see I am an old man now" he says and smiles.

This happens very frequently. The hint will come handy for prospective hostesses. Our first day's lunch was in the best traditions of Muslim cooking, rich, heavy, fragrant, laden with pepper and spice. The table was a blaze of colours with beet-root and green peas and the yellow and Mahogany colours of our meat dishes. I was quite proud of my cooking. Although the Ustad's companions were eating with relish, the great man himself sat nibbling at the Chapatis and the peas and perspiring profusely although it was the end of November.

"You are hardly eating anything, sir", I managed to object sorely disappointed at his lack of appetite. "You don't like the food perhaps," I added bent on extorting praise. "God be praised", he said. "The food is marvellous. I like it and how beautifully you have decorated the table. What wondrous colours", and he surveyed the table from end to end. One of his disciples explained to me that he ate very simple food, with little fat, entirely without any spice, preferably vegetables. I had made a complete fool of myself. Happily there was some bread and butter and a few eggs handy and we managed with them.

From that day a revolution in cooking took place in my house and our whole family went without fats and pepper and spices for as long as he stayed.

Stream Of Admirers

After his first sitting at the conference he asked us about our impressions. I murmured my compliments but complained that bass notes which were the soul of his music were hardly audible to us as we sat at a distance from him. The next four sittings were therefore entirely ours. He took pains to see that we sat where we wouldn't miss a single precious note in his divine performances.

A stream of visitors kept coming to our house—old disciples separated from the great teacher for years. They came and cried and touched his feet and told of their troubles. There came students in search of autographs, musicians, government officials, university teachers, poets, girl students and lady teachers from the local colleges all trying to pay their homage to the greatest genius in music that the country has produced within living memory. These visitors were kindred spirits and it was wonderful to feel that there was in the country at least one artist who had been able to evoke feelings of such affection and gratitude from his public.

A Sanyasi's Tribute

Among the visitors came a holy man—a Sanyasi from Bengal with the sacred stick in his hand which he could not put on the ground. He was a pale, emaciated man with damaged eyes and had walked five miles on his bare feet from his monastery to meet the enchanter.

The Ustad was resting after a strenuous performance, so I asked him to wait. I was agreeably surprised when he spoke in faultless English. "I am mad after him", he began. "I myself used to sing but gave it up when I heard him. His music made another man of me. I collected some money by begging and bought a gramophone and all his records. A Rajah from Bengal gave me a record of 'Darbari', specially sung by Khan Saheb for him. My madness increased and I went to Baroda once to see him but he was out. So I bought a photograph of him. He is a veritable God in music. His music is TRUTH, the thing beyond this world. Pardon me, but you do not understand his music as we do. We alone understand it", and he looked at me apologetically with his weak watery eyes.

There was also a humble school teacher who had threatened to resign his job if the principal didn't give him leave to attend the mid-day sittings of the Ustad. A Cambridge graduate and university teacher brought pure ghee fearing lest the doubtful ghee at my place should harm the artist's throat.

Cataract Of Melody

He was acclimatized to my house in two days' time and after this we basked in the sunshine of his genius to our heart's content. One morning as he was going out to sing at a large gathering I asked one of his disciples to request him to sing the raga known as 'Khat' and at any rate not to sing Jaunpuri which he sings very often.

To my intense disappointment he began Jaunpuri and ended on it. When he came back he saw me sitting in the drawing room perhaps looking snubbed. "You asked for 'Khat'" he said, "but people wanted Jaunpuri. It is a sweet raga and they like it. I will sing 'Khat' for you now." He sat down on the sofa and looked about for some accompaniment. There was none. He therefore sang alone.

What a cataract of melody he let fall from his throat. He sang the famous song of Baijoo Bawra, "Vidya Dhar, Guni Jan." His voice rose in all its splendour making the old walls of my house vibrate with its power. He sang it with such passion, such utter abandon and such tenderness that the tears stood in the eyes of many of us. Then followed another song in the same raga, then another and yet another and another in quick succession. I was amazed at his gigantic memory which retained in all their freshness dozens of songs in an obscure raga like 'Khat.'

A Family Member

Thereafter it became the custom to talk of music and song in his presence till he was moved to singing and all the kingdoms of the world could not have given us the joy which these few hours did.

He became greatly attached to the small coterie of his admirers which stayed at my place and hovered around him all the time that he was awake. He took an interest in everything that was ours, our sowings for the season, the health of my mother, the family photographs.

I, my elder sister and my two sisters-in-law did all the cooking for him ourselves. All the musical criticism was therefore done in the kitchen where the men often joined us. Once we sat taking out the green peas from their pods for the day's cooking. Among those who helped us were my brother, a lawyer, a high ex-government officer, very distinguished now, a talented journalist and a prince from an Oudh estate, who had come specially to hear the Khan Saheb.

As we sat talking feverishly, discussing and quarrelling, who do we see entering the smoke-filled and dirty kitchen but the Khan Saheb! Instantaneously we fell silent laughing. He stood over us all smiling like an indulgent patriarch. Then one of us got a chair for him and he sat down watching us happily. "Green peas! Do boil me a handful with a little ginger. I love them." There he sat eating the peas and breathing in the smoke as if he had lived with us all his life.

Original Composer

One day he asked me to sing having come to know that I had learnt a little. I was frightened out of my wits but it is the convention to obey and I sang a Khayal of Jaunpuri. Before I had finished, he took it up himself and what jewel-like elaborations he added to my simple rendering. To my utter surprise I found that my capacity to learn increased tenfold as if by a miracle In those few moments I learnt more about the teaching of music than I had done in all my life. How he filled the simple sketch of a song with colour and meaning and life.

With great exactitude I and one of his senior pupils repeated the notes but the meaning, the passion, the significance eluded us. That is precisely the quality which distinguishes his music from that of other musicians who are otherwise first class professional artists. Again the usually held idea about the lack of emotional content in our music he insists upon every note being alive and full of feeling, yet retaining its classical integrity.

It is not generally known that Ustad Faiyaz Khan is a very great composer. His Khayals have all the beauty, the classic grace, the technical excellence, the originality, the unmistakable stamp of genius which distinguish the compositions of his ancestors Adarang and Sadarang. Who does not know the famous song in Jaijaiwanti—"More Mandar ab lon nahin aye" or in Puria "Main kar ayi piya sang rang ralian" or that gem in Gara Karhara—"tan man dhan sah waroon."

He has hundreds of such compositions to his credit and it is a pity that they have not been collected in script.

Best Days Of Our Life

Undoubtedly the few days that he lived amongst us were spiritually the fullest and the best days in our lives—something to talk about to our children when we grow old and decrepit.

The day he was going was a sad day for all of us. A crowd had gathered at my house to bid him godspeed. He was lavish with rewards to servants and other attendants and remembered the tiniest of children who even once fetched a pan for him.

When leaving the house he raised his hands towards the heavens and blessed us all. "You are all wonderful. Let me have a good look at you before I go" and he saw us all carefully as if to note down our faces for remembrance.

Then he went. His eyes were moist as he entered the car.

"RED BALL EXPRESS"

The "Red Ball Express" is one of the most vital arteries across France carrying the life stream of supplies to American troops at the front.

Approximately 9,000 American trucks and thousands of American drivers are racing day and night over special one-way express highways that stretch from the beaches of Normandy to Baris and beyond-carrying food, ammunition and gasoline to nourish the men and equipment in the battle lines.

At night the Red Ball convoys drone ahead with headlights blazing, for speed is essential and the German air force is negligible. Every few hundred yards along the route there are signs in English and French which announce: "Red Ball convoys only. All others keep off."

The remarkable arrangement of truck routes that compose this Red Ball circulatory system is roughly a giant loop that feeds traffic of loaded trucks on one route and sends the empty ones back along another one-way highway. Every truck that speeds over this highway network is labelled "priority" with a bright red disk on its front and rear.

Approximately 25,000 soldiers, drivers and mechanics ride the route, carrying 700,000 gallons of gasoline a day to the armies on the front. So far the Express has moved freight equivalent in distance to taking one ton around the world 700 times

There are two drivers assigned to every truck, and they "keep her rolling" 20 hours a day The "Red Ball Line" provides a bivouac area halfway along the road where drivers are changed. While new men keep the trucks rolling, the drivers who have just been relieved can bathe, eat and catch up on sleep. Then they meet the convoy at the other side of the loop at the halfway point of the round trip and another change of drivers is made

In case of a breakdown, there is no halt in the rapid flow of supplies. The driver pulls out of line and repairs his truck while others roll on. If he is unable to repair it, a "Red Ball" ordnance crew either makes the repairs or assigns a new truck.—U. S. O. W. I.

First Centenarian M. P.

Westham Member's Ambition

Will Thorne is 87 and his ambition is to be the first centenarian M. P., writes a "News Chronicle" reporter. "There are only 13 years to go and no reason why I should not make it. I'm perfectly healthy and very careful about crossing a road", he remarked recently in his home among his constituents in Westham, where he celebrated his birthday with a bottle of lemonade.

He refers to himself as Little Willie. His wife speaks of him as the "world's best husband"

He drew from his waistcoat pocket an old policeman's whistle and regarded it lovingly. "Party meetings in the House would always be late if Little Willie didn't blow his whistle every Wednesday morning, as the Big Ben strikes 10, to call Sir Arthur Greenwood to work", he said. That whistle has a history of its own. Twice it was blown in the House, last time in the midst of a speech.

Mr. Thorne's prescription for a long and happy life is: Don't drink, don't knock about, don't talk back to your wife, don't worry and take a hot basin of bread and milk for breakfast.

Will Thorne is happiest when he is in his parlour surrounded by his "presents". These range from a bell from one of the trade unions to an ancient wood carving from the U. S. S. He thinks he has more presents than anybody in the House.

Marvels Of Eye Surgery

Injured Airmen Fly Again

By Celia Benson,

who spent several days at the R. A. F. eye centre she describes in this article. There she interviewed eminent British surgeons and discussed with them the latest treatment.

Amazing advances have been made in eye-surgery in Britain during five years of war. At an R.A.F. eye-centre, eminent eye-specialists, now in the Service, told me of some of these achievements.

As a result of new operations and methods of treatment, men with eye injuries that would have put an end to their flying days a few years back are now able to take to the air again. Bill, a 22-year-old R.A.F Flight Sergeant pilot, is one example. Crashing in a glider, he received facial injuries which displaced his eyes, causing double vision. It looked as though his career as a pilot was over, but the ocular muscles were operated upon to give back normal vision.

An operation for double vision varies. It may be upon any one or more of the six muscles which move the eyeball in each eye. If one of these is damaged double vision arises, affecting direction, action and movement of the injured muscle. For instance, when the top muscle which pulls the eye upwards is damaged, the injured eye will not go up as high as the other one. If the muscle that moves the eye sideways is injured, the eyes are unbalanced and, again, double vision occurs. Should more than one muscle be affected the contractures displace the globe, and this may result in double vision ahead. Such an injury requires at least two operations before it can be rectified.

Fascinating Branch

Before he is operated upon, a patient is usually given six months' treatment by orthoptics to restore the movement of his eyes, and binocular instead of uniocular vision.

Throughout the treatment the Hess chart is used, to discover how far the eyes are misplaced and to register improvement. The patient sits in front of a large black cloth, squared out like a chess board, with red dots at the corners of each square. Wearing coloured glasses, one side red, the other green, he holds a rod, on the end of which is a small green circle. He must try to place this over the red dots. A chart is drawn up showing whether he "nets" the dots in their proper position. If he does so his eyes are normal once more.

Orthoptics is a fascinating branch of medical science. Looking into a synoptophere, a machine used for eye exercises is gazing into a magic lantern. Two slides are placed in it, one a butterfly, the other a net. If there is simultaneous perception by both eyes the butterfly should appear in the net.

Angles are measured to see if the eyes are deviating. Two rabbits follow the butterfly. They are indentical, save that one has a bunch of flowers and no tail, the other a tail but no flowers. As the machine is manipulated only one rabbit should be seen, with tail and flowers.

These are called fusion pictures and are simple adduction exercises to see if the eyes are converging, diverging and functioning together.

Slides with various numbers on cubes and circles are employed to test the stereoscopic or depth sensation. (Many animals lack this sense of depth in their sight, as they have uniocular vision only).

Vital Discovery

Another patient, a British factory worker I heard about at this R.A.F. centre, had been blown against a wall by the blast of a bomb. His eyes were damaged, and double vision resulted; he could not see things on the left side. His head was tilted to the left, he had a permanently worried expression, and was unable to see properly the machinery on which he worked.

After binocular vision had been restored by operation and orthoptics, he held his head straight again, his expression became normal, and he was able to carry on his work as before.

Head injuries may also cause damage to the nerve supplies to the eyes, or to the extra-ocular muscles. Like facial eye injuries, these can be restored by orthoptics and operation. Operations for double vision have advanced considerably since the war. Before then squints could be corrected in children only, by operation and orthoptics. Now traumatic squints in adults can also be cured by operation.

A vital discovery is the new method of locating intra-ocular foreign bodies by X-ray machinery. These bodies are drawn out with a magnet, but it is not always possible to remove them at one attempt, and the use of X-ray machinery makes it possible to tell within millimetres where the body is in relation to the principal axis of the eye. This new method, developed by two British specialists, both of whom are at present serving with the R.A.F., is an invaluable aid to this branch of eye-surgery, where highest skill is needed to save sight.

Non-magnetic alloys, such as aluminium, cannot be withdrawn by using a magnet, and a hook is used for these remarkable and intricate operations. One of the most usual yet difficult operations performed at this R.A.F. centre is the removal of bullets without causing any damage to the eye. A Canadian sergeant holding the Distinguished Flying Medal, had a bullet lodged in the orbital fat behind the left eye. The bullet was extracted and one third of the vision of the eye was saved. In another case a bullet was taken out by making a hole at the back of the eye.

Contact Glass

When the tear-duct down to the nose is broken through injury, the eyes continually water. Obviously no airman could fly with constantly streaming eyes, but eye specialists working in conjunction with ear, nose and throat specialists now make a new opening between the tear sac and the nose, to create a fresh drainage channel.

Contact lenses which can be fitted over the eye under the lids have proved of great value in saving damaged sight. They are placed over a cornea, which has become exposed owing to contracture of the eyelids through burning or scars, in order to give protection from ulceration.

Contact glass is also used in cases of deficient vision due to traumatic cataract—a fairly common sequel to eye injuries. After the puncture of the lens by needling, the lens matter is washed out and a contact glass is fitted, restoring the sight to normal.

Of the new drugs, penicillin is undoubtedly the greatest aid in sight-saving surgery. Where the eye is perforated with shrapnel, or injured by a broken windscreen, and infection sets in which might cause blindness, the eyes can be saved by penicillin. It has proved effective against organisms which are resistant to albucid or the sulfonamide groups of drugs. It also cures infections like connunctivitis and blepharitis—"red eye" and "red lids", to give them their more common names.

AIR FERRY SOLVES ALLIES' SUPPLY PROBLEM

Transport Without Seaports

By Wing Commander L. V. FRASER

As Allied armies converge on Reich territory, the problem of supplies becomes the most important factor in the successful conduct of operations.

After the break-through in France, Allied lines of communication suddenly stretched out at an alarming pace, while the need for supplies of every description grew even greater. When available, the port of Antwerp will prove the terminus from which Field Marshal Montgomery can obtain in vast bulk everything required to keep his army on the move; but in the early days after the collapse of the Caen hinge, the only port available to the Allies was that of Cherbourg.

While the pulverising raids on Cologne by both United States and Royal Air Force Bomber Commands are making headlines in the daily Press, another aspect of air war continues to develop throughout each of the 24 hours and in every kind of weather. Pending rehabilitation of the liberated Channel ports, a steady stream of air supplies is being ferried by aircraft of the Allied Transport Commands and deposited at precisely the points where those supplies can do the most efficient job.

Supplies Flown Across The Channel

A good idea of the vital part played by R. A. F. Transport Command since the landings in France began can be gained from the fact that up to the end of October more than 14,000,000 lbs. of freight, upwards of 12,000 passengers and nearly 1,00,000 lbs. of troop and official mail have been flown to the Continent.

A special group of Transport Command informed that South England is responsible for the fulfilment of this immense task. Months before D-Day, pilots and air crews were suitably trained by taking part in secret exercises. When the assault opened, these squadrons found themselves in the spearhead of attack.

Their first task was to drop leaflets in the area chosen for attack. A few hours before the first seaborne landings on the Normandy coast were due, they towed an army of gliders filled with airborne troops across the Channel and dropped them off at their objectives in the Caen area. At the same time, stores were dropped which covered the immediate needs of the skymen. These included jeeps, trailers, bicycles, handcarts, motor-cycles, six-pounder guns, medical stores and ammunition. Aircraft of this Transport Command group also dropped a large number of anti-personnel bombs on the night of the assault.

Following the delivery of the first attacking force, R.A.F. Transport Command aircraft carried on with the job of air supply and maintenance. The personnel and kit of several R. A. F. wings were transferred to Normandy, including some 2,000 people. The equipment and supplies delivered comprised a vast quantity of 500 lb. bombs, more jeeps radio equipment propellers and spare parts for aircraft, mines and high explosives.

Medical Stores

In addition to all this, a very full quota of medical stores was flown to France including large consignments of penicillin, blood plasma and others. At one period more than two tons of blood were ferried over daily.

As soon as the first landing strip had been completed, Transport Command began evacuation of casualties on the return journey. On June 12—less than a week after D-Day—11 men were flown back to English hospitals. By the end of June the scheme had developed so rapidly that on one day alone over 700 casualties were evacuated by air. During the first nine weeks of the assault more than 20,000 wounded men were taken back to England while more than 1,100 tons of war material reached Normandy. Throughout that period daily an average of two tons of mail was flown each way between England and the troops in France.

After the smashing of the German hinge at Caen, Transport Command began a phase of operations which proved indispensable to the swift Allied advance. The task facing ground transport in France—that of shifting, in the wake of speeding armour colossal stores of war material accumulated at the Normandy bases—was almost insuperable. The roads were cluttered with an endless stream of vehicles. Immense traffic jams developed unavoidably at points where road bridges had been destroyed, villages blasted to rubble and crossings blocked by wrecked Nazi transport and demolitions.

All this spelt delay at a time when vast quantities of petrol and ammunition were vital to the Allied armoured and motorised forces.

Call Answered With Lightning Speed

A point was reached where the speed of advance seriously threatened to outpace supplies that were being brought by road. Immediately both R.A.F and the usual Transport Commands were called in to assist.

The call was answered from England with lightning speed. Within a few hours swarms of Transport Command Dakotas and other aircraft of the U. S. Troops Carrier Command streamed across to the Continent loaded up with tens of thousands of gallons and many tons of ammunition for the Allied armoured columns. It was the start of a shuttle service of airborne supplies on a scale never previously attempted in any theatre of war.

Thanks to the clock-work regularity of supply aircraft all danger of a bottleneck was eliminated. These aircraft, unarmed and comparatively slow, were flown without fighter escorts right into Belgian and other frontline landing grounds where the noise of battle could be heard by day and the flash of guns seen by night.

Since then a particular group of Transport Command designated for the task has carried on with the ferrying of an endless stream of supplies to the battle area. Thus far the number of wounded evacuated by air has risen to more than 40,000 men. The freight carried ranged from ammunition to medical supplies, from cigarettes and comforts to newspapers and mail.

MR. CHURCHILL IS 70 YEARS OLD

(Continued from Page 5)

to other newspaper men, sometimes almost with tears in his eyes, and again conquering them and rallying himself and us, speaking one moment with nobility and the next with humour. He sits there with one emotion or thought or feeling after another lighting his blue eyes; his mouth puckers; he sucks his cigar; his hands a little puffy now rest on his knees; he talks of great affairs with much simplicity as though they affected not more than two or three; he is not overawed by them, he makes you feel they can be handled and straightened out and he makes you feel encouraged and more hopeful. He shows you he can be stern and just and you know he will be humane.

There are those who say he is a great war leader, but not a man for peace. Some say he ought not to sacrifice his reputation by risking it in after-war work. What nonsense that is, and how little likely to appeal to Mr. Churchill, for what is a man's reputation if mankind can be served? I believe he will do what he can and I believe he can do much.

He has been Conservative, next Liberal and again Conservative. But there is some Radicalism in him. Ten years ago he wrote: "Are the great discoveries in organisation or processes only to mean that fewer labourers will produce more than is required during the same long hours, while an ever larger proportion of their mates are flung redundant upon the labour market? Alone through the establishment of shorter hours, can wage earners enjoy the blessings of modern mass production and indeed, without shorter hours those blessings are but a curse."

He wrote after the last war, an inscription for a war memorial: "In war, resolution. In defeat, defiance. In victory, magnanimity. In peace, goodwill".

Perhaps he feels more sternly now as most of us do. All I say here is that the man who wrote those passages, the man who has been our chief British architect of victory, will honour the peace table to which he sits and both then and in further years that he be spared to do a great service to mankind.

Sabu at an army chow

Sabu Dastagir, who leaped into motion picture fame from the back of an elephant in the Hollywood film "The Elephant Boy," is now serving as a gunner on a U.S. Army bombing plane with the rank of corporal. According to latest reports he has completed his fourth bombing mission and is credited with shooting down one Japanese plane. His most recent mail to Hollywood friends came from New Guinea.

Sabu was born in the Karapur Jungle near the City of Mysore on March 15, 1924. His father was a mahout in the service of the Maharajah of Mysore and almost from the time he could walk Sabu spent his time around the elephant stables climbing on the backs of the huge beasts fearlessly, exercising them and riding them to the water.

His Great Opportunity

His great opportunity came when Robert Flaherty, Alexander Korda's film director, went to India to film "The Elephant Boy." Sabu's skill in handling elephants and other jungle animals attracted the director's attention. Through an interpreter Flaherty arranged a screen test, then cast him for the lead in the now-historic film.

Upon completion of the picture Sabu and his brother Shaik were taken to London to further their education and to groom Sabu for more pictures. He learned English quickly and before leaving London attended a British school.

His second picture "Drums" was almost as great a success as the first. He made his first visit to the United States in 1938 in connection with this picture, making personal appearances in key cities throughout the country.

He returned to England for his third picture, "The Thief of Baghdad," which was nearing completion when the German air attack against London began. The Korda studio's staff moved to Hollywood where the film was completed. Subsequently, he played in "Jungle Book" and later was under contract with Universal Studios for whom he appeared in "Arabian Nights" and "White Savage," both with Jon Hall and Maria Montez.

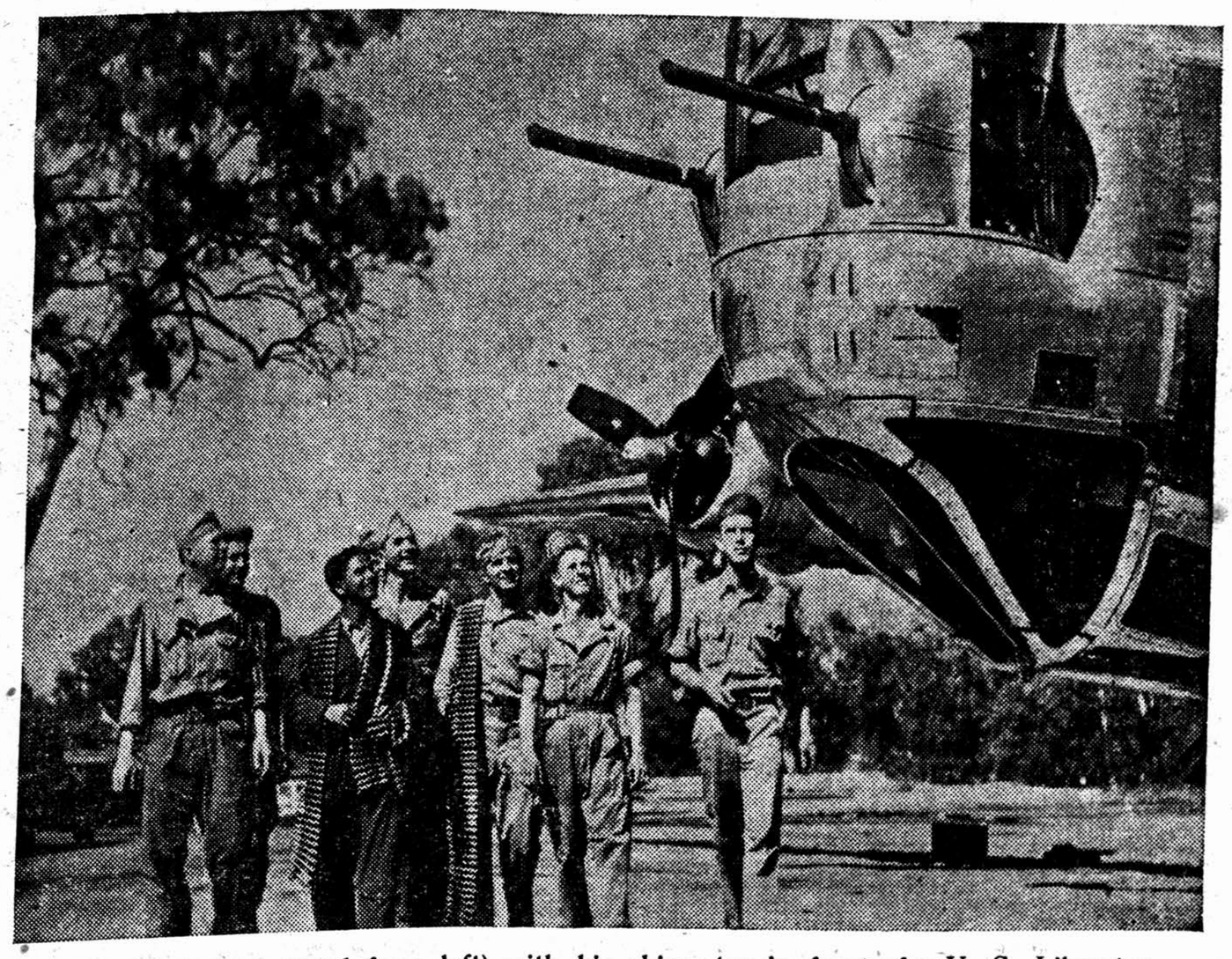
Like a Typical Yankee

After the entry of the United States into the war, Sabu joined the cavalry in the California State Guard and did volunteer night beach patrol, meanwhile studying mathematics in preparation for the U.S.A.A.F.

His brother Shaik, formerly his manager, now works in a California war plant and is married to an American girl. At Sabu's direction Shaik sold the furnishings of their film colony bungalow and donated their 500 chickens to the Hollywood Canteen for troops.

At the time Sabu entered the Army he lived and dressed like a typical American boy and attended school regularly at Universal's school, receiving a high school diploma there. —USOWI.

The Elephant Boy Goes To War



Corporal Sabu (third from left) with his shipmates in front of a U. S. Liberator.

Mr. Churchill Is 70 Years Old

By JAMES LANSDALE HODSON

Mr. Winston Churchill was 70 years old on November 30. In this article an admirer of his sums up the achievements of his long public career.

India, of course, represents the other—and not so glorious—side of the Churchillian medal.

Mr. Churchill is larger than life and any attempt to put him on record must inevitably be defeated. One day some bold gentleman will make a film of his life and how far below him it will fall! For he is a kind of modern Caesar or Napoleon—soldier-statesman and writer too. Those who jotted down Bonaparte's epigrams were not kept busier than those in his entourage who write down Mr. Churchill's.

The most famous he has put into his speeches—such as "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few" spoken of the R.A.F. in the Battle of Britain; and again "their feats will gleam and glow..." spoken of the Eighth Army; and "we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on landing grounds, we shall fight in fields and streets, we shall fight in the hills, we shall never surrender" spoken of the rest of the people of Britain. And to that he probably added 'sotto voce' with that superb mixture of gallantry and defiance and humour and "devil" that is his alone: "And we will hit them over the head with bottles for we have nothing else."

For a moment he could stand aside and look on himself and us with a historian's eye. It will be said "This was their finest hour".

I see him as a great human being, great in his nobility and his generosity and his courage. You could, I think, use of him that famous phrase "he nothing common did nor mean....."

You couldn't say he makes no mistakes. You cannot say his judgment of men is always good. But what you can say is that he is intensely loyal to his old colleagues and friends, and that his boldness and bravery in sending to the Middle East men and tanks that might well have been needed in England to repel invasion (for we had precious few of either) was touched with genius.

He may not always be a master of strategy, but there was something masterly there all right. And while I like to think of that I like to remember that at the signing of the Atlantic Charter he was so deeply touched as to shed tears. And why not? Great and generous hearts can be easily moved.

Soldier, Reporter, Statesman

It has seemed as though all his career were designed to bring him to this high office in the world's dark hour. Professional soldier (twice failing to get into Sandhurst before he managed it), war correspondent—£250 per month and expenses in the Boer War where he was captured. He had revolver bullets in his pocket and he had no right to them as a mere correspondent. To General Botha, who was escorting him, he said: "Look, what I found" and pulled them out nonchalantly and threw them away!

He has never lacked resource. As a war correspondent he was fearless—said that an individual mounted Boer on his own ground in his own way was worth three to five regular soldiers and asked "Are the gentlemen of England all fox hunting?"

He has often begun his talks to U. S. war correspondents by saying with a twinkling eye and with those sibilant ears also twinkling: "I used to be a war correspondent myself."

At 26 he was a Member of Parliament making his first speech that caused his Tory leaders shake their heads ruefully. Already he had lectured in America and written a novel in which his chief character said: "I don't like to see the Government supported only by bayonets, it is an anachronism". He was an audacious and daring young man, "much too full of himself," in the opinion of some old gentlemen in the Pall Mall clubs.

It was 40 years later that he became Prime Minister. During those 40 years, he had held various Cabinet posts, including President of the Board of Trade. In that office, his courage, imagination and drive (as Sir William Beveridge, who worked with Mr. Churchill then, has told me) resulted in giving Britain unemployment insurance, the first country in the world to have it 35 years ago.

As Admiralty First Lord in 1914, he made sure that the Fleet was ready at its posts, acting first and walking across to get the Prime Minister's approval afterwards.

When Mr. Neville Chamberlain brought him back in 1939—back from political wilderness whither his honesty and forthrightness and independent mind had helped to banish him, it was to the Admiralty that he almost naturally returned. He had left the Admiralty in the first World War after the tragic failure of the Dardanelles (he had had less than justice on that) to command the Sixth Royal Scots Fusiliers in trenches; he left the Admiralty this time to become Premier and tell us he could offer us nothing but "blood, toil, tears and sweat".

With what justification he could have said "I told you so," because for years he had been almost a lone voice in the Commons warning us of the growing German strength and the menace in that strength. But no word has he publicly spoken. And his is a tongue that can be devastating.

Britain has been welded together in the flame of this war in a marvellous way. And the welder has been Mr. Churchill. That I think is the core of his genius and his service to mankind. None other could have done it or at least have done it so well.

I look at him (I trust) with an objective eye. The cause is greater than the man, but no other Englishman so fits the cause or so measures up to it. The British people, in my judgment, will never yield 100 per cent of their allegiance to a man unless that man has nobility of character in him, but only nobility of character they like evidence that he is a real man, with if you like some frailties of a man.

In Churchill they see them in his love of cigars and brandy and his liking for wearing the uniform. They will not bind him to their hearts with bonds of steel unless he is physically doughty and strong—and how often Mr. Churchill has risked his neck in our service, taking hazards and ordeals with the spirit of a man half his age. They do not much like doctrinaires and they prefer qualities of the heart to those of the head.

To have both as Mr. Churchill has is no disadvantage. They like him to be upright and devoted to his children and to believe in God. Pugnacity, a sense of fun, a zest for life—all these are endearing qualities. A good hater and a good lover and a staunch friend—if he is those too, all the better.

Now all this is as true of what the Trade Unionist and Member of the Labour Party likes, as it is of the Tory and member of the Primrose League. Mr. Churchill fills the bill, and magnificently fills it.

His critics may say he is still charging at Omdurman or living in the 18th century. But the average man would retort, so what? (and Mr. Churchill would not be above using that Americanism either).

When he turns the word Nazis into "Nazies"; when he puts emphasis on the first syllable in Gestapo, thus scorning it and half ridiculing it, we are delighted; when he turns his obloquy and ferocious contempt on Hitler, he speaks for us. Who could have caught the admiration and affection of the Americans as he has done, who could have met President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin and built that third cornerstone as he has built it? (and yet he can, I believe, say whimsically as though it was a conjuring trick "very difficult to get those three marbles under one hat")

Conservative Or Radical?

Of his massive contribution in planning strategy, in using vision, in looking at the world as a chequerboard of war, in pusning here and prodding there, in cutting through red tape, in appearing among soldiers and sailors and airmen at the opportune time bringing his own inspiration, I have neither knowledge nor space adequately to speak. His war orations are on record and are as immortal as any words of man can be. They have been like bugle calls to men desperately facing odds.

I have no doubt that with his sense of history and his flair for the dramatic, he sees quite plainly where history will place him and sees that his fame is assured. And yet I have never observed a man of anything like his fame bear himself at a Press Conference with anything like his modesty and sweetness and humanity and sense of fun, speaking at times almost as a newspaper man

(Continued on Page 4)

Bus No. 30: FROM DUM DUM TO SHAMBAZAAR

By Harindranath Chattopadhyaya

Although it isn't very far
From Dum Dum upto Shambazaar,
The over-crowded bus fatigues
The distance into several leagues,
And makes the journey bear the stamp
Of some foul concentration camp

It's terrible to have to wait
For buses forty minutes late,
And when they do arrive, at length,
To have to exercise one's strength
To push and squeeze, through stink and heat
Of sweating crowds, to find a seat!
Such buses are a ghastly sight
And preach the maxim: MIGHT IS RIGHT!

It seems quite futile to discuss
The difference between a bus
And, say, the carcase of a beast
Inviting vultures to a feast.
Since men who wait for buses change
Into a sort of dark and strange
Reflection of some hungry vulture
Divested of all human culture.
See how their burning eyes dilate
As they, poor victims, wait and wait
For Number Thirty which at times,
Comes slower than authentic rhymes
To some verse writers—who, I think,
Waste quite a lot of precious ink
Trying to add to poesy
Free verse which is a bit too free!

The Thirty is more crowded than
A headlong-speeding Fascist plan
Whose speed it imitates as well—
With what success I cannot tell;
(It is successful only when
It crashes with a load of men
Which sort of accident, I say,
Keeps happening almost every day!)

O Thirty Bus! green Thirty Bus!
You are a synonym to us
For nightmare, and for all, I guess,
That crowds the heart with nervousness.
When you come vacant—which is rare—
God seems then to have heard my prayer!
O when you offer me a seat
I think that you are very sweet,
When you come empty—rattling loud
You seem a politician, proud
Of his own voice which seems to hide
The emptiness he feels inside!

O Thirty Bus! I'm sure the day
Will come, it isn't far away,
When you and I will change, and be
More well-planned and more orderly.
The day when every one of us
Shall learn, like men, to board a bus,
And not behave as in a gamble,
Like beasts that only know to scramble. . .
Besides, you will be multiplied
When nobody shall be denied
A comfortable honest berth,
Fair offer for his money's worth!

With all this trouble round us brewing
Let us at least be up and doing,
And see to it that there remains
No more for us a life of chains;
That our beloved motherland
In future takes an equal stand
With all the countries of the world
Where flags of freedom are unfurled.
'And lo, it surely rests with us'
'To see we do not miss the bus'.

Calcutta.
21st Nov. 1944

Fig Leaves & Hankies!

By KIMARADHANA

I had never thought it possible to hang an essay on such a flimsy thing as a handkerchief. It was circumstances that made me realise the importance of it in one's life. A gentleman has been defined by someone as a person possessing a clean handkerchief and well-scrubbed ears. According to this definition I sometimes leave my gentlemanliness at home: for, I often forget to carry a handkerchief. Generally I can carry on without one; but I forget it just once too often, and thereby hangs a tale.

I had promised my Fair Friend a picture; and punctual to the minute I picked her up. On the way a sneeze came along. I began frantically searching for my sheet-anchor of gentility and found that I had been scuttled. Meanwhile my Fair Friend noticing my precarious position opened her bag and gave me a hanky. I took hold of it and let the sneeze go. Perhaps it was the water in my eyes or the 'lady-likeness' I had acquired along with the hanky, for I began to see the world from a funny angle.

What Purpose?

For instance, the hanky in my hand, I mused. It is not a handkerchief at all but an impressionistic cotton miniature of the person who gave it me. So far, so soft, so dainty! What purpose did it serve in her life? Surely it did not fulfil the same functions as a man's handkerchief.

Then floated before my eyes the different parts that handkerchiefs have played in the drama of men and women. I saw Lancelot wearing a "favour" of Queen Guinivere and tilting the more valiantly whenever he thought of it. I saw Iago acquire Desdemona's hanky and the foul murder that followed it. I saw Yankees, leaving the New World to fight the bestialities of the Old World, beg from their 'fair friends' a souvenir to keep till they met again, and a fluffy ball of cotton drenched with the tears of parting deftly change hands. I saw a modern Florence Nightingale nursing the wounded soldier in the jungles of Burma or on the sands of the Sahara, stranded for bandages and medical supplies, bring from her bosom a warm handkerchief with which she bound the soldier's wounded limb—and heart! And then.....

I came back to this world of ours. Here handkerchief's play a different part. They are but the mirrors reflecting the owners' thoughts For instance when one gets into a local train, one takes one's hanky and vigorously flicks away the dirt that the last occupant might have left behind, thus proclaiming one's habits of cleanliness. Handkerchiefs, ties and socks, are matched by people who lay claim to be the top-lights of fashion. When on a gay picnic a colourful handkerchief often reflects the mood of the wearer. Cow-boys, those colourful folks whose ambitions are limited to a few acres of pasture and some four-legged denizens sport colourful handkerchiefs as testimonials of their flamboyant tastes; and then those bright handkerchiefs or scarves that the gypsies sport!

Like Her Consort!

The hanky of the modern Eve is used by her much as she uses her consort—it is twisted into shape as befits the occasion. Let her be embarrassed and it becomes a fair rope to be twisted round and round dainty fingers while shy, shining eyes keep switching on and off your rapt countenance. Let her be gay and the handkerchief keeps going in and coming out of that natural pocket that God has endowed her with. Let her be cold and it is used to dust an even layer of powder. The modern Eve uses her handkerchief to as devastating a purpose as the first Eve did a fig leaf.

A fat man mopping his perspiring countenance accompanied by a sound as of a leaky locomotive whistle gives us a Falstaffian chuckle. A dandy extracting a silk banner from the breast pocket of his woollen coat, to flick away some imaginary speck of dust from his sleeves where an imploring beggar's hand had rested installs in us a cold anger. The dirty grey piece of cloth round a vagabond's throat puts us in a rakish mood. The piece of cloth that the shoe-black uses alternatively to shine your shoes and to clean his face, is perhaps a banner that may be the forerunner of the Socialists' Flag tomorrow. The dirty sleeve that the beggar runs across his oozing nose is just as much a hanky as my lady's cambric.

And then I began to philosophise on the beginnings of the hanky. If, I thought, a fig leaf could begin the series of accidents that our flesh has been heir to, and grow to the extent of five-yard sari, then where shall I look for the beginnings of a dimunitive hanky. Just as I began to muse on this Euclidean problem, the hour struck for my accustomed nap and spreading my hanky on my face, I quietly fell asleep.

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Allied Attack On Dunkirk Fortress Sector

CANADIANS BREAK INTO MAIN GERMAN DEFENCES

Stiff Fighting In Nazi Bastion Town Defending The Roer

LONDON, Dec. 2.

The German News Agency reports that "strong Canadian forces after heavy artillery barrage lasting several hours launched an attack against the Eastern Sector of the Dunkirk Fortress.

They were supported by strong formations of two engined bombers. They succeeded in breaking into the main German defences."

The German News Agency says: "In Southern Hungary the Russians yesterday continued to advance north and north-westwards from the Pecs area and enemy spearheads have now reached the line Kaposvar-Pecs where furious fighting is taking place.

BATTLE FOR ROER

General Patch's armour to-day is fighting its way down the narrow Alsace plain as subsiding floods in the north promise better going in the battle for the Roer. Overcoming blown bridges, strong anti-tank defences and floods Seventh Army tanks have pushed five more miles down the road from Strasbourg to within 7 miles of Selstat after capturing the villages of Sermersheim and Kogenheim. Other units have captured Herbscheim and Boofscheim close to the Rhine. Troops swarming through the Northern Vosges passes have got within two miles of Selstat from the west after capturing Kintzheim. A new feature of this front is frequent attack by Lufewaffe against frontline positions.

U.S. AIR ATTACK ON COBLENZ

LONDON, Dec. 2.—It is officially announced more than 250 American "Flying Fortresses" escorted by more than 55 fighters to-day attacked three marshalling yards in the Coblenz area.

Fighting Inside Linnich

LONDON, Dec. 2.—Here are the latest reports from Reuter's special correspondents on Western Fronts with the Ninth United States Army. Saturday: Allied troops are fighting inside Linnich one of the German bastion towns defending the Roer. It is six miles north of Julich and a mile west of the river. Resistance is still stiff north of Lindern. (Lindern is two and a half miles north-west of Linnich. Fighting has been very stiff in the Linnich-Lindern-Beeck triangle).

GERMAN PATROL WIPED OUT

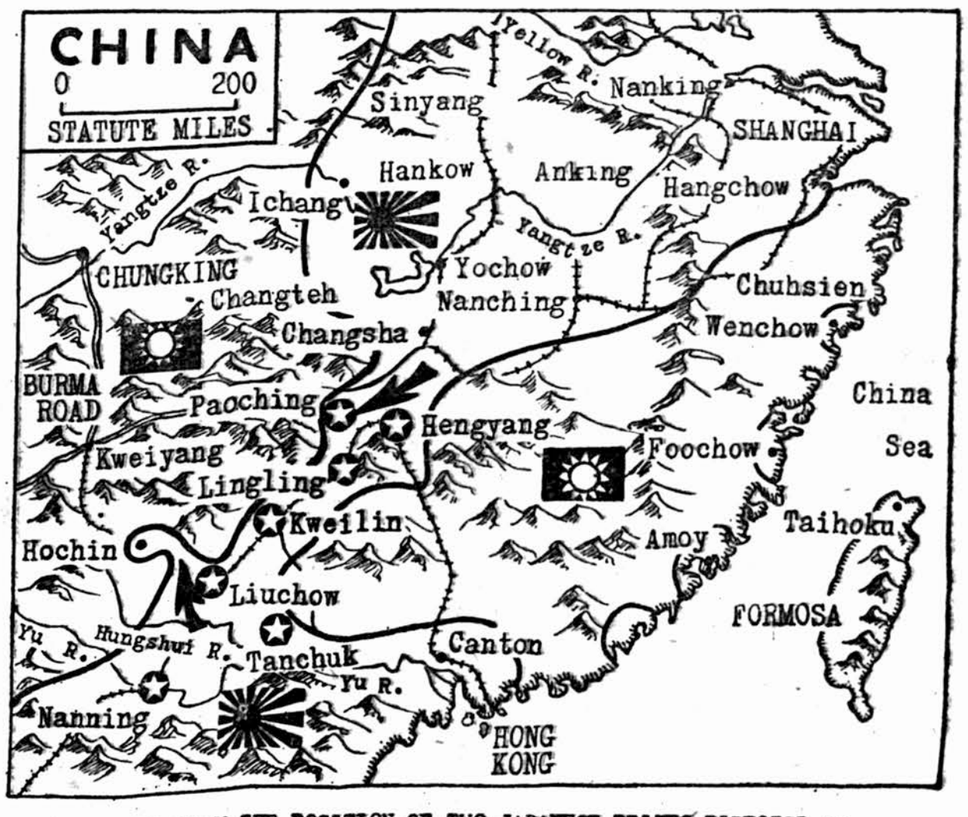
With the British Second Army: The Secondary sector remained quiet yesterday. The only action occurred when a thirty-man German patrol crossed the Maas North of Venlo. The patrol was wiped out and the Germans were either killed or captured.

With the Third Army, Saturday.—The Saar front has extended a mile north-west of Merzig and tanks and infantry of the United States Third Army now hold a ten-mile-front on the west bank in the Merzig area. The infantry gained a mile and a half on a four mile front north of Saint Avold and the armour gained a mile, three miles east of Saar Union against stiff opposition.

FRENCH TROOPS SCORE ON SWISS BORDER

PARIS: Paris Radio says, it is officially announced that French troops of French First Army have scored big gains along an eighty mile front, north of Swiss border along the Rhine. It adds that on the Rhine, the town of Huningue where the enemy had established bridgeheads, has been captured in the course of a number of brilliant operation by units of the colonial army reinforced by battalions of French forces of the interior.—Reuter.

FOCUS OF JAPANESE EFFORT IN CHINA



ARROWS SHOW THE POSITION OF TWO JAPANESE DRIVES DIRECTED AT HENGYANG. STARS SHOW AMERICAN AIR BASES IN CHINA WHICH HAVE BEEN ABANDONED DURING THE JAPANESE ADVANCE. LINES ARE APPROXIMATE FRONTS.—USOWI MAP, DECEMBER 1, 1944.

CHINESE CAPTURE CHEFANG

Jap Base On Burma-China Border East Of Bhamo

CHUNGKING, Dec. 2.

Chinese forces have captured Chefang, a Japanese base on the Burma-China border, 70 miles east of Bhamo.—Reuter.

Americans Beat Off Jap Suicide Charges

General MacArthur's Headquarters Philippines Dec. 1: American troops have beaten off a series of Japanese "suicide" charges in savage fighting in Central Leyte, it was reported at General MacArthur's Headquarters to-day.

The 'communique' said the charge was repelled with heavy losses to the Japanese. Elsewhere American ground activities were restricted by rain. Tanks are reported to be converging on Japanese positions southward down the Ormoc Valley.—Reuter.

Gujarat Postmen's Decision

(From Our Correspondent.)

AHMEDABAD, Dec 2.

A special meeting held to-day, of postmen all over Gujarat has decided to go on strike if their demands for dearness allowance, increase and revision of the grade of scale of salary are not accepted. They have already given notice of the same to higher authorities in Bombay and Delhi.

Japs Preparing For New Offensive

CHUNGKING, Dec. 1

Large Japanese forces capable of offensive action are to-day consolidating their new positions in Northern Kwangsi province in preparation for the thrust across the border into Kweichow.

A more serious move is expected to be northward on Kweiyang, the capital of Kweichow province whose occupation would bring the Japanese to within two hundred miles of Chungking and at the same time hinder the operations of advanced American airbase to the east of Kweichow.

Chinese Government circles see no immediate threat to Chungking and are of opinion there is no need for panic.—Reuter.

Deputy Collector Dismissed

(From Our Correspondent.)

ALLAHABAD, Dec. 2: With effect from November 25 Mr. O. M. Prakash Gupta, Deputy Collector, Kheri, (under suspension) has been dismissed from the United Provinces Civil (Executive) Service, says a Government "Gazette" Notification.

SOVIET ADVANCE IN S. HUNGARY

German Infantry Division 'Smashed Up'

(From Reuter's Special Correspondent)

MOSCOW, Dec. 2.

Marshal Tolbukhin's forces west of the Danube in Southern Hungary are to-day widening the line of their break-through along the front and in depth, according to Soviet reports.

One of the fresh German infantry divisions was completely smashed up and a number of other infantry motorised and mechanised divisions suffered heavy defeat.

Marshal Tolbukhin's troops are now breaking into the outskirts of Dombover, a key rail junction 35 miles west of the Danube. Other mobile units are striking out for road junctions and other key points.

In eastern Czechoslovakia, the highway to Kosice the main junction on the line connecting Southern Poland and the Balkans front is being cracked open by Soviet guns ferried over the Ondava River.

The Germans' Ondava Line took a month to build and it has been shattered in a matter of hours.—Reuter.

NAWAB OF MAMDOT ELECTED LEADER

LAHORE, Dec. 2.

Nawab Iftikhar Hussain Khan of Mamdot, President of the Punjab Muslim League, and Sardar Shaukat Hyat Khan, ex-Minister, were unanimously elected Leader and Deputy Leader respectively of the Punjab Assembly Muslim League Party at a meeting of the party held this morning. Eighteen members of the Party attended.

"Civil War In France" Banned

NEW DELHI, Dec. 2: Prohibition under the Sea Customs Act on bringing into India or translation, reprint or substantial reproduction of the books entitled "Civil War in France", by Karl Marx and "Paris Commune" by V. I. Lenin has been notified.—United Press.

COCANADA, Dec. 1.—Mr. M. Pallamraju, M.L.A., member, All-India Congress Committee and ex-President of the East Godavari District Board, has been released on parole for 20 days from the Vellore Central Jail on condition that he will not enter his native district (East Godavari).—A.P.

DE GAULLE AT MOSCOW

Indications Of Franco-Russian Pact

(From Reuter's Special Correspondent)

MOSCOW, Dec. 2.

General De Gaulle arrived here to-day by special train from Baku via Stalingrad. He was met by the Soviet Foreign Commissar, M. Molotov.

An unofficial observer here believes that General De Gaulle's visit has two main objectives: First, to establish friendly personal contacts with leaders of the Soviet State which proved so valuable in the dealings between Russia and Britain and the United States; secondly, to explore the ground towards renewal on even closer basis of the traditional links between Russia and France.

There is every indication here that the Soviet Government will, in no wise discourage General De Gaulle's known desire that France shall have full say in Allied decisions affecting Europe.

The French attitude to General Franco of Spain has been suggested as one of the subjects for discussion, but there is no hard information on this. While it is not believed that General De Gaulle has any kind of treaty "in the pocket" unofficial observers are inclined to the view that at least the first foundations of the Anglo-Soviet model might be laid in these talks.—Reuter.

STOP PRESS

STALIN'S 'ORDER OF THE DAY'

MOSCOW, Dec. 2.—Marshal Stalin in an order of the day to-night announced that the Russians have captured Szegszard which has been described as the biggest German strongpoint in the whole of the Danube area.

They have also captured Kaposvar, Paks and Domover. These places are all in a broad front between the Danube and Lake Balaton.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

COTTON (MARCH)

New York, Dec. 2.

Previous Closing	.....	21.75
To-day's Opening	.....	21.70
Difference	.....	—05
To-day's Closing	.....	21.74
Difference	.....	—01

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CLOSING DATE 13TH DECEMBER, 1944

S.-E. Asia Waits For D-Day

A WEEK OF WAR By N. G. Jog

DECEMBER 1.

The war in the East—the war which matters to us most—will be three year old next Wednesday. It is a sobering thought. Remember Pearl Harbour? Singapore? Rangoon? The mad exodus from Bombay, Madras, Calcutta?

No doubt Pearl Harbour, if not Singapore, has been more than avenged by now. The principal cities of India were never so full with war workers as at present. The final threat to India has been removed. What was intended to be a full-fledged invasion last summer has proved to be a decisive rout for the Japs. Nearly a hundred thousand Jap soldiers lie dead on the Indo-Burma border. The Tokyo and Shonan radio no longer blare "the march on Delhi."

Tokyo itself is now at the receiving end of the American aerial blitz. From Saipan, 1,500 miles away, the B-29's have started a regular bomb-ferry service to the capital of Japan, which seems marked out for the same fate as the capital of Germany. General MacArthur has not merely returned to the Philippines but has firmly entrenched himself there. The legitimate Filipino Government has already started functioning at Leyte and the Jap attempt to fight a last ditch battle on that central island is proving as costly as it is futile.

Numerous Jap convoys, which means troops, equipment plus precious ships, are being methodically sunk in the Philippine waters and this strategy of attrition suits the Allies perfectly well. Premier Koiso, is said to believe that the Philippine battle is Japan's last chance to win a stalemate and a more favourable peace than unconditional surrender. That is why General Yamashita, the new Jap Commander in the Philippines, is rushing reinforcements regardless of the losses suffered. He may thus actually help to make the campaign of shorter duration by his reckless sacrifices.

Jap Army Intact

All this shows that the Allies have travelled a long, long way since those dark and disastrous days at the end of 1941 and the beginning of 1942. But the end of the war in the East is nowhere in sight. We are not even at the beginning of the end. The most authoritative opinion considers that it will take two years after the defeat of Germany to defeat Japan; the only snag in this is that nobody can tell when Germany itself will be defeated! Even Premier Churchill himself is becoming ultra-cautious in prophesying the end of the war and he holds out no hope of victory until summer—not early summer, he was careful to rub it in in his last speech in the Commons!

While the Americans have made a two-fisted job of it in the south-west Pacific, the same cannot be said of the British in the south-east Asia Command. The defeat inflicted upon the Jap invaders of India six months ago was no doubt crushing, but the campaign was essentially defensive in nature. In their return from Australia to Philippines, MacArthur and Nimitz have taken a heavy toll of Jap ships and planes and their losses particularly in naval tonnage may well-nigh prove crippling in the long run.

But the same cannot be said of the Jap army. The couple of hundred thousand Jap soldiers killed or wounded—very few have been taken prisoners owing to mass harakiri, both among the troops and the civilians—were essentially expendables. The immense Jap army remains mostly intact and powerful as is being made painfully evident in China at present. The linking at Linchou of the two Jap forces driving north-east from Hengyang and north-west from Canton means that China has been cut in two.

China's Grave Plight

The Japs have anticipated Allied activity in the China sea by establishing a direct overland supply line from Manchuria to Hongkong. General Okamura the new C.-in-C. is said to have his eyes on Kunming, the China terminal of the Burma Road itself, in order to forestall the Allied drive in Burma. That may prove an extremely difficult job but it at any rate reveals that the Japs are keenly alive to the dangers of the present situation and are taking the necessary precautions in time.

The sensational success reaped by the Japs in the recent offensive in China—they have sealed off China from the sea and captured most of the American Bomb-Tokyo bases—ought to serve as a writing on the wall to the Allies. They have conclusively revealed the inherent risks in the strategy of postponing to tomorrow what must be done today. They have proved that China is in an extremely parlous position indeed and that her continued and effective resistance to the enemy depends solely on the arms and equipment supplied to her by the Allies. She has stuck it out for seven long and bitter years on her own, but it would be foolhardy to expect her to keep up the pace much longer merely on the strength of promises. The Japs are too crafty not to exploit the situation to their advantage, both militarily and politically.

Fortunately, the palliatives applied by America are proving effective for the time being. The Nelson-Hurley-Wedemeyer combination is tackling the job expeditiously and the movement of supplies vital to China is being accelerated. General Wedemeyer, while acknowledging the gravity of the situation informed the press the other day that there is reasonable expectation that the measures now being taken will turn the tide in China. He was having daily conferences with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, who was proving most co-operative. The recent reorganization of the Chinese Government will also go a long way in improving the domestic situation.

Ottawa Blueprint

All this is no doubt welcome. But a radical cure cannot be expected of the present palliatives. What China, and for that matter the whole of Asia, demands is that at the beginning of its fourth year the Allies must consider the war in the East, as much crucial and pressing a job as the war in the West. Though the last round of the battle against Germany is bound to receive priority, the supply and tonnage position is now sufficiently eased to enable the Allies to take up the Jap assignment in right earnest at last. After all the man-power and the war potential of the Allies is too gigantic to be spent on the two European fronts.

In their last meeting at Ottawa President Roosevelt and Premier Churchill were reported to have focussed their main attention on the Far East. In fact it is the general impression that the blue-print of the final offensive against Japan has been already drawn up. The invasion of Philippines obviously formed a vital part of that blue-print, though General MacArthur's brilliant strategy may well have anticipated it. The Americans are no doubt on the right road—the road to Tokyo. But what about the British.

The SEAC command is in operation for nearly sixteen months now and it has little to show except the foiling of the Jap invasion. It may be that, as he himself revealed during his last visit to London, Mountbatten was compelled to play a waiting role so long owing to the lack of supplies. But now the situation has changed a good deal and things ought to get moving. SEAC must synchronise its activities with those of the American command in the South-West Pacific and thus put the screw on Tokyo from both the ends.

No Time To Lose

Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, observed some weeks ago: "We hope to place in the Pacific a fleet capable in itself of fighting a general fleet action with the Japanese navy." It is not known whether this hope has been consummated but at any rate Mr. Alexander himself has revealed that there is a record movement of ships and stores to the East There has also been a general post in SEAC itself and the new fighting team is expected to get at grips with the enemy sleeves.

The 14th Army's strike across the Chindwin and the Chinese assault on Bhamo fill the bill at present. But a purely land campaign over Burma—barely one-sixth of which has so far been recaptured by the Allies—is bound to prove a terribly slow and laborious process in view of the terrain which helps the defender. Mountbatten is a Combined Ops. man and now that he has the necessary craft at hand, he must have a more spectacular plan up his sleeves.

An amphibious attack first on the Andamans or even directly on Rangoon suggests itself. This frontal invasion of Burma will halve the period otherwise necessary for its occupation. The Supremo may even envisage the ambitious strategy of landing in Malaya itself which may change the entire outlook in the Far East at one stroke.

All these possibilities suggest themselves, though it would be presumptuous for a layman to expatiate upon them. But on the eve of the fourth year of the war in the East, one cannot but feel that it is high time that the curtain should go up on D-Day. An eventual defeat of Japan may be a mathematical certainty. But the sands of time are running out and it is essential to save China for defeating Japan. If China is lost, everything would be lost. That is exactly why D-Day cannot be deferred much longer in the Indian Ocean.

Hess Cried When Allies Landed In France

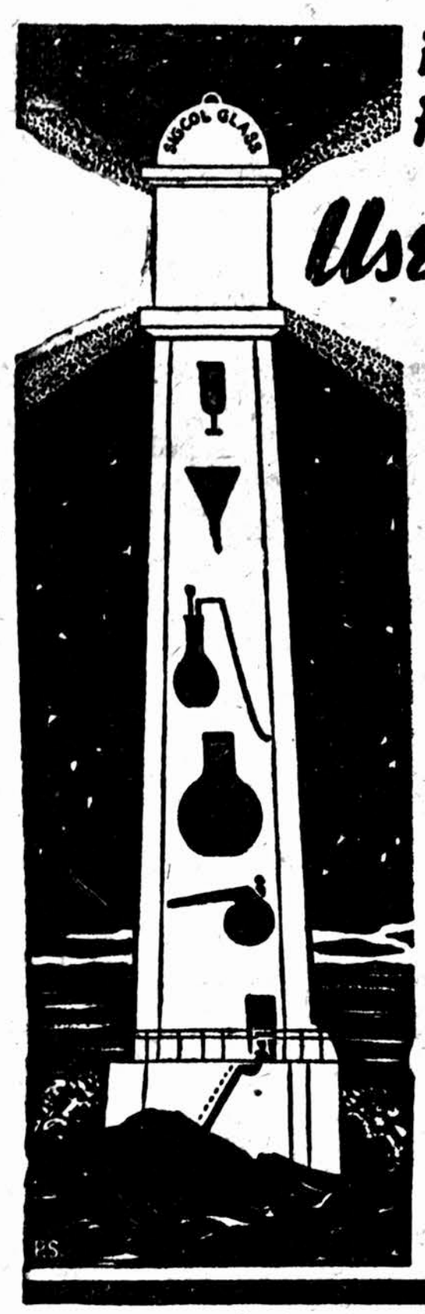
LONDON, Nov. 24.—The London "Evening Star" said Rudolf Hess, the day France was invaded, broke down and cried when he heard over the radio that the Allies had made a landing in Normandy. Hess, who is living in a bungalow "somewhere in England" is at last completely disilusioned after stubbornly maintaining than an invasion was impossible, the paper says

"When Eisenhower overran France, Hess sank into a strange apathy He would go for days without speaking and hardly ate his rations. Hess once said, 'Germany is beaten for ever'

"The plot against Hitler was another shock. He did not know which side to take—that of the generals for wishing to save life by making peace or that of Hitler and Himmler for wanting to save Nazism. Hess is now anti-Himmler, who, he says, has betrayed Hitler."—USOWI.

K. E. M. Hospital & G. S. Medical College

The Administration Report of the K. E. M. Hospital and Seth G. S. Medical College for the year 1943-44 states that the total number of in-patient admitted during the year was 14,804 against 12,782 and 13,135 during 1942 and 1941, respectively. The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the Hospital during the year amounted approximately to Rs. 9,24,096.



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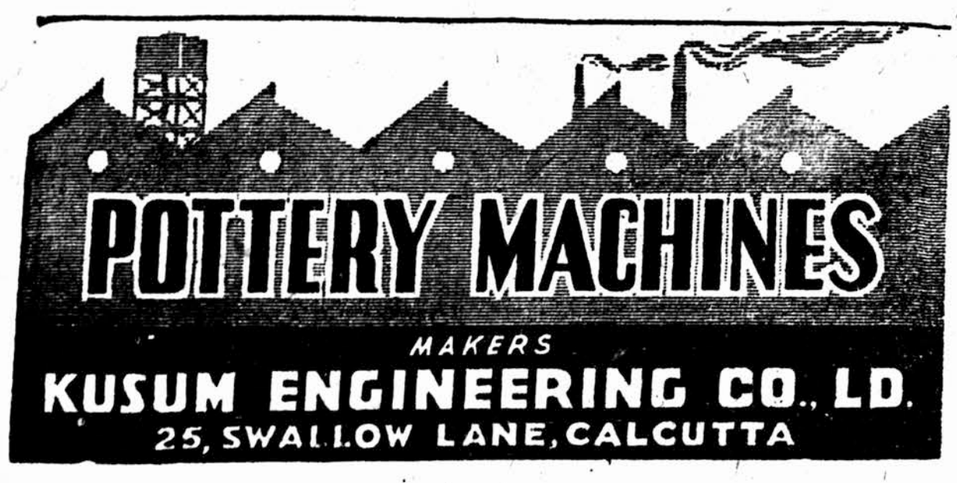

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CITY AND SUBURBS

To-day

Hindu: Magsar Vad 3, 2001
Muslim: Zilhej 16, 1363
Parsi: Tir 1, 1314
Sunrise: 7-57 a.m. Sunset: 7-1 p.m.
Highide: 3-8, 14-56
Lowtide: 9-15, 20-49

To-day's Engagements

INDIAN CONCERT: At Victoria Gardens, Byculla to-day (Sunday), from 6-0 to 8-0 p.m. (S. T.), by Mr. Shankar D. Khatu.

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS: Jehangir Wadia Building, Flora Fountain. Lecture of "Science of Mind Control", 6-15 p.m. to-day.

DIVINE SERVICE: Miss Vimalbai Gadre will conduct a divine service this evening at 5-30 at the Prarthana Samaj, Girgaum.

BAND MUSIC: At Parsi Colony Dadar, to-day (Sunday), from 6-30 to 8-30 p.m. (S. T.), by the Band of the Bombay City Police.

BOMBAY SNATAK MANDAL: An extraordinary meeting of the Mandal will be held at Pt. Yudhishthir's residence to-day (Sunday) at 4 p.m.

GAUDIYA MISSION: Pandit Sripal Navadweep Das will lecture to-day (Sunday) at 6-30 p.m. Culliandas Building, Gowalia Tank Road.

BOMBAY KANNADA SANGHA: Veena performance by A. S. Chandrasekharia at 6 p.m., to-day, in Ramnarain Ruia College, Matunga.

ARYA SAMAJ: A public meeting will be held at Arya Samaj Vithalbhai Patel Road, to-day (Sunday), at 7-45 p.m. (S. T.), when Shri Pandit Satvalekerji will lecture on Vedic Sermon

A LECTURE: By Mr. Bhaishri Amritlal H. Chandarana on the subject of "Asan and My Experiences" to-day (Sunday), at 10-30 a.m., at Shri Ramtirth Yogashram 448, Sandhurst Road.

ISMAILIA STUDENTS' EDUCATION SOCIETY: A talk by Mr. Mohamed Ali Chaiwala, on "The World as I See It" to-day (Sunday), at 10 a.m. at the Islam Club, Chowpatty

DADAR SARVAJANIK VACHANALAYA: The 38th annual general meeting of the above Vachanalaya will be held in the Vachanalaya Hall, to-day (Sunday) at 10 a.m. (S. T.).

SOUTH INDIAN CO-OPERATIVE CONSUMERS' SOCIETY, LTD.: Annual general body meeting of the Society, to-day (Sunday), at 3-30 p.m. (I. S. T.), at the Asthika Samaj Hall, Matunga.

BUDDHA SOCIETY: Public lecture by Dr. J. C. Chatterji at the "Anand Vihara", Nair Hospital Compound, near Bombay Central Station to-day (Sunday), at 10 a.m. (S. T.), on "Yoga as Taught by Lord Buddha".

GURUPRASAD FIFTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION: A discourse on 'Manache Sloka' by Sri H. Shankar Rau, at 7-30 a.m. and a Kirtan by Sow. Banubai Dukhade at 5 p.m., at Talmakiwadi, Tardeo.

SHRI TATVADNYAN MANDAL: Pandit Satvalekar of Aundh will speak on "Importance of Bhagvat Gita" and after the lecture there will be questions and answers, to-day (Sunday), at 9-30 a.m., at Vithal Mandir, Vaidyawadi Thakurdwar Road.

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Gandhiji Rigidly To Discontinue Public Activities For 4 Weeks

STEP TO BE TAKEN TO HAVE COMPLETE REST FOR REASONS OF HEALTH

SEWAGRAM, December 1.

Mahatma Gandhi has issued a statement saying that from December 4 to 31 he will rigidly discontinue all public activities, all interviews for public or private purposes and all correspondence of any nature whatsoever, in order that he may have complete rest.

Mahatma Gandhi's statement issued to press by Mr. Pyarelal, his Secretary, says:

"That 'man proposes and God disposes' constantly proves true in my case, as I expect it does in every case whether we realise it or not.

I was contemplating a food fast for reasons I hold to be entirely spiritual. But for the time being, it is being replaced by a day to day work fast.

I had hoped that I had recovered sufficiently to be able to go through the routine work without interruption. But nature's warning has been sounding in my ears during the last ten days. I was feeling fatigued. Even after the noon day siesta the brain seemed tired.

There was a complete disinclination to speak or write. But I continued hoping that I would be all right without having to discontinue mental activity.

"AVOID DISASTER"

But nature would have her way. Rajaji who saw me after a month detected a marked change in my face, and he said, "You must stop all this ceaseless mental activity if you want to avoid a disaster." I seized the suggestion.

He even went so far as to say that I should not mind disappointing invited workers of the Charka Sangh, although I was looking forward eagerly to meeting them and discussing with them my plan for a new orientation of khadi work.

But I would not listen. So I am going through these meetings in the best manner I can in the hope that no crisis will overtake me during the remaining two days of these meetings

From the 4th to the 31st of this month I have decided rigidly to discontinue all public activities, all interviews for public or private purposes and all correspondence of any nature whatsoever.

I shall read no newspapers during the period. This abstention will be subject to exception for unforseen circumstances of grave nature.

I shall not deny myself the pleasure of reading non-political literature in which I am interested. This also I shall read without in any way unduly taxing the brain. I have asked friends who were expecting to see me during the month to indulgently postpone their visits for the time being.

Let readers not be alarmed at what is only a precautionary measure. Dr Sushila Nayar assures me that there is nothing physically wrong with me except that my old friends, the hookworms and amoebae, have not left me.

I am able to take daily walks without the slightest strain and they will be continued. I had hoped to make one or two public statements in connection with a lot of misrepresentation of my views and doings about the communal question and some other public questions.

I must forbear for the time being. But I must repeat the warning I have given before that nothing that is not authoritatively stated by me should be accepted by the public.

There are things which I have seen in the press which I can only say I am incapable of having countenanced directly or indirectly.

There are some vital questions addressed to me by correspondents. They will forgive me for my inability to deal with them for the moment. If after a month they still feel the necessity, they will please repeat their letters and if all goes well, I shall gladly reply.

Starvation of millions, black markets, and what I cannot but describe as gambling, will continue to worry me as they do now.

I can but entreat my numerous coworkers to do what they can to ease the situation which can be done. I am perfectly sure, if those concerned will make up their minds that the claims of famishing millions are the first charge on their care and attention."

SOUTH INDIAN ASSOCIATION: Dr Kameswar L. Sarma, Nature Cure Specialist, will deliver a lecture on 'Hidden Side of Health and Healing' at the South Indian Association today (Sunday) at 6 p.m.

"THE BILLAWAR ASSOCIATION: The twelfth annual Celebrations of the Association will be held at 2-30 p.m. today, (Sunday) at the Sunderbai Hall, Queen's Road, Fort, Mr. S. W. Shiveshwarkar, Under-Secretary to the Government of India, will preside.

"SRI SHANMUKANANDA SANGEETHA SABHA MATUNGA: Musical Entertainment by Sangeetha Vidwan Kunnakudi Venkatramaiyer and party at the S.I.E.S. High School Hall, Brahmanwada Road, Matunga, at 5-25 p.m. today.

SETH NAHALCHAND LALLUCHAND HIGH SCHOOL: The prize distribution gathering of Seth Nahalchand Lalluchand High School, Malad, will be held at the Podar Estate Grounds, Malad to-day (Sunday) at 4-30 p.m. Seth Haridas Madhavdas will preside and distribute prizes.

HINDUSTAN SCOUTS ASSOCIATION: A Patrol Leaders Conference of the Municipal Boy Scouts will be held to-day (Sunday), at 1-30 p.m. (B. T.), in the Gilder Tank Hall of the Municipal Schools Committee's Office, Grant Road. Mr. M. M. Pakwasa, Ast. Prov. Commissioner will preside.

THE DEEPAK MANDAL: A public symposium on 'Socialism in the Post-War World' to-day (Sunday), at 6-30 p.m., at the Blavatsky Lodge under the presidentship of Prof. P. A. Wadia. Prof K. T. Merchant, Prof. N. S. Pardasani, Prof. H. A. Vibhakar, Prof. Parikh and Mr. Rohit Dave will speak.

BANTARA ALIAS NADAVARA SANGH: The committee meeting in the premises of the Vijay Bank Ltd. Takurdwar, at 9-30 a.m. (S. T.) to-day (Sunday).

HORNIMAN COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM: The public meeting which was to have been addressed by Mr N. G. Virkar at Khalsa College, to-day (Sunday) morning, under auspices of Horniman College has been postponed owing to the Cricket Festival Match.

ANDHRA YUVAJANA SANGH: Lecture by Prof. Pratapgiri on "Andhra heritage" at Marriage Hall Parsi Colony, at 5 p.m

Progressive Writers' Association

A meeting of the Bombay Progressive Writers' Association will be held today (Sunday), at 4 p.m. at the office of the People's Theatre Deodhar School of Indian Music, French Bridge (opposite Opera House). Chetan Anand will read a short play in Hindi. Balraj Sahni will give a talk on "Literature and Drama In War-time England." There will be a discussion on "Hindi and A. I. R."

TO-DAY ON RADIO

SUNDAY, Dec. 3.
BOMBAY—1.

244 m. (1,231 kc/s)—8-0 News (H). 8-15 News (E). 8-30 Film Music 8 50 News (M). 9-0 News (G). 9-10 Tomorrow. 9-15 Leela Rajopadhye 9-30 Shankarrao Alkutkar. 9-50 Shyamala Mazgaonkar. 11-0 AIR Orc 11-20 Mohammad Rafi. 11-45 Nisar Husain (Baroda).

12-45 p.m. News (M). 12-50 News (G) 12-55 News (H). 1-0 Film Music 1-30 News (E). 1-40 Lunch Music. 5-0 Shyamala Mazgaonkar. 5-40 Sitar Recital 5-55 Locals. 6-0 Mohammad Rafi. 6-30 News (E). 6-40 News (H) 6-45 Shankarrao Alkutkar. 7-5 Tarana 7-15 Leela Rajopadhye 7-30 Kannada Songs 7-45 Shankarrao Alkutkar. 8-0 Bhajans 8-15 News (M. 8-30 News (G) 8-45 Let Us Play You Something. 9-0 News (H). 9-20 News (E). 9-30 B. B C. News 9-45 Sports Review (E) 10-0 Folk Songs of India 10-20 To Be Announced 10 30 Antoni Sala (Violoncello). and Jorn Ireland (Piano).

Gandhiji Wants Decentralisation Of Charkha Sangha

WARDHA, Dec. 2.

The All-India Spinners' Association Trustees met in Sewagram yesterday to discuss changes in the constitution so as to make its working more effective. Mahatma Gandhi presided.

Mahatma Gandhi, it is understood, envisaged the co-ordination of the five institutions working separately, namely the Charkha Sangha, Talimi Sangha, Gosewa Sangha, Gram Yoga Sangha, and the Harijan Sewak Sangha so that villages will be better served by able and trained workers settling in selected villages.

The *charkha* should be the emblem of non-violence and its message should penetrate or reach every village. Village uplift should be the main objective, to achieve which workers should enter villages, through constructive activities *khadi* and *charkha*. More workers should be trained and the Charkha Sangha should be decentralized and men thus relieved should go to different villages and serve them all round.

The discussions will continue today.—A. P.

Jinnah-Syed Interview Last Four Hours

NEW DELHI, Dec. 2

Mr. G. M. Syed President, Sind Provincial Muslim League, had a four-hour interview with Mr. M. A. Jinnah to-day.—A. P.

Late Mrs. Kashibai Atmaram Velkar

(From A Correspondent).

The death occurred of Shrimati Kashibai Atmaram Velkar, the wife of the late Dr. Atmaram Wassoodew Velkar, L.M. & S. She was a prominent lady of the Pathare Prabhu community, philanthropist, educationist, prominent theosophist like her husband and staunch follower of Dr. Annie Besant. She died at the ripe age of 85. She helped many a boys and girls in paying their fees in the Chanda Ramji and Students' L. & S. Societies High Schools.

Bombay Provincial Muslim Students' Conference

The Reception Committee of B. P. Muslim Students' Conference writes the Secretary is celebrating a Muslim Students' Day next weed. Our workers will be going round schools and colleges and also the business localities of the city for the purpose of selling Conference Flags. I earnestly appeal to the Muslim Students and the public to give generously to the noble cause of the Muslim Students.

Last Sunday, at the Islam Gymkhana Stand at the Brabourne Stadium our workers were able to collect nearly Rs 500 within a couple of hours, by selling Conference Flags to the cricket fans I thank all those who have given generously to the cause of the Muslim Students

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Festival Cricket

C. C. I. XI AMASS 260 FOR 3 WICKETS

Sohoni And Mankad Give Excellent Start

(By Our Cricket Critic)

Batting steadily throughout the day on Saturday, the C.C.I. XI amassed 260 runs for the loss of 3 wickets only. Sohoni and Mankad gave the home team an excellent start by putting up 143 for the first wicket. The former had the misfortune of losing his wicket when he was only 18 runs short of the century.

There was quite a respectable crowd at the Brabourne Stadium on Saturday to witness the Festival Cricket match between the Services XI and the C.C.I. XI.

Sohoni and Vinoo Mankad opening for the home team, compiled as many as 143 runs in 164 minutes before their separation was brought about by Judge, the Glamorgan bowler. Vinoo fell a victim to the l.b.w. code when he had collected 65 runs including 4 fours.

SOHONI NARROWLY MISSES CENTURY

Sohoni continued his prolific scoring and headed for the century in a confident style. But a smart catch by Corral behind the wicket off Dobree-Carey saw his premature down-fall. Seven hits to the boundary were included in his contribution of 82 in a stay of 200 minutes, 168 being the total.

Rusi Mody was the third victim of the day. Judge claimed his wicket 20 runs later when Rusi had notched 14 runs only to his account. This was rather a disappointing show on the part of this colt who has been scoring consistently this season.

At 4-21, the great Vijay Hazare and Merchant, became associated and it was expected that they would punish the limited attack of the Services with the least show of respect. But both of them appeared to be unprepared for any risk. They batted till the end of the day without losing their wickets, registering 45 and 33 to their respective credits. From the look of things it would not be at all surprising if they hit up three figure totals each and the C.C.I. aggregate may rise over 500.

260 for 3 wickets is a handsome collection for the C.C.I. But their rate of scoring was very slow in comparison with that of their opponents. Certainly a better exhibition is expected from the two batting aces of the country. Col. Nayudu was handicapped by the meagreness of his bowling stock. Judge was really good with the leather and their fielding was fine.

DETAILS OF SATURDAY'S PLAY

Mankad and Sohoni opened the game for the C.C.I. team against the bowling of Judge and Butler. The pair settled down and 30 went up the board as a result of 35 minutes' play. The first bowling change was effected at 40, when Dobree-Carey replaced Judge and a little later Compton took over from Butler. 50 went up in 65 minutes. After 90 were reached in 87 minutes, Mushtaq was brought in from the pavilion end in Dobree-Carey's place and Judge replaced Compton at the north-end. Sohoni then hoisted the first century of his side by driving Judge in the country for two. Both the batsmen had now passed their 40 mark. When the game closed for lunch, Sohoni and Mankad were not-out with 49 and 43 respectively to their credit in a total of 104.

SERVICE'S FIRST SUCCESS

The Services had their first success after an hour's game in the afternoon Judge bowling from the Churchgate end made a successful appeal for l.b.w. against Mankad. (143—1—65). The outgoing batsman had stayed for three hours at the wickets for his 65. His partner at this stage was 66. Both Sohoni and Mankad had reached their 50 20 and 25 minutes after lunch and their partnership of 143 had given a valuable start to the C.C.I. team.

Mody joined Sohoni who reached his 70 with a drive for four. 150 now appeared.

Sohoni went ahead and reached his 80 rapidly. But thereafter Dobree-Carey claimed him getting him caught behind the wickets. (168-2-82). Sohoni's contribution included seven hits to the boundary.

Hazare joined Mody who scored his first decade after 51 minutes. When the game closed for tea the score stood at 188.

In the very first over of the resumption of the game after tea Mody was caught in the slips by C. K. Nayudu off Judge (188-3-14).

Vijay Merchant joined and opened his account with two off Judge. 200 were hoisted by Hazare after 244 minutes of the game by pulling on the square leg for three. At this stage a new ball was brought in. Twenty minutes later Merchant with a late cut off Butler, who had replaced Dobree-Carey reached his first decade. A similar cut by the same batsman a little later brought 220 on the board.

Both Merchant and Hazare were now well-set in the wickets. Hazare who had come earlier was ahead of Merchant and had already reached his 30. Even when Hazare reached his 30 Merchant was still in his twenties. 95 minutes after the tea interval 250 were hoisted on the board.

C. K. Nayudu tried the leather in the last over before the stumps were drawn at the end of which the score stood at 260, Hazare not out 45, Merchant not out 33, the fourth wicket partnership contributing 72.

SERVICES 1ST INNINGS

SERVICES 1st Innings	... 342
C.C.I. TEAM	
Vinoo Mankad, l.b.w., b Judge	... 65
S. W. Sohoni, c Corall, b Dobree...	82
R. S. Mody, c C. K. Nayudu, b Judge	 14
Vijay Hazare batting	 45
Vijay Merchant batting	 33
Extras	... 21
Total (for 3 wickets)	260

BOWLING ANALYSIS

Butler	23	7	41	0
Judge	32	10	82	2
Dobree-Carey	23	5	77	1
Compton	8	1	26	0
Mushtaq Ali	5	4	3	0
Hardstaff	1	0	6	0
C. K. Nayudu	1	0	4	0

FALL OF WICKETS: 1/143; 2/168; 3/188.

Bombay Races

ORANGE FLOWER ANNEXES MATHRADAS GOCULDAS CUP

Favourites And Outsiders Alternate

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Favourites and outsiders alternated at Mahaluxmi when the programme for the fifth winter meeting was decided and therefore most punters failed to get benefited. A couple of anticipated good things such as Malik Al Jiyad, Moot Law and Love Me failed to figure even in the lesser moneys.

The Kolhapur-owned Orange Flower Bhim Rao astride, scored a splendid two-length victory from the neglected Baqlava in the day's chief event, the Mathradas Goculdas Cup. The rider of the beaten Baqlava raised a frivolous objection against the winner which was overruled after a brief enquiry.

Jones, the rider of Promise Me who finished second to What Again in the first division of the Borivli Plate, also challenged the winner for interference but that also failed to hold good.

The much spoken of Lord Wavell gained a narrow verdict in the concluding event, the first division of the Tunis Plate. Trainer Chotani's candidate, New Jack, who also had ready backing gave way close to the winning post while his other candidate, that street-corner tip, Halfaya, was made a course scratching.

Trainers Meherjee and Buckley distinguished with doubles to their credit.

R. Mody, the veteran Parsi batsman, who scored a double century against the Europeans.

The following are the results:—

THE SION PLATE. Division II.—Distance 1 mile.

Mr J D Banatwalla's MOZAN 8-12 K Hasan 1
Rao Bahadur Thube's FAITHFUL 8-12 Raut 2
Mr Saleh Moosa's TIME STEP 9-0 Mull Singh 3
Mr F A Irani's MOSAKI PASHA 8-7 B Khalil 4

Not run:: Al Zajil, Iraq Marshal and Thunderous.

Won by: 3 1/2 lengths, neck, 1/2 length.

Time: 1 minute 53 4/5 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 35. Places Rs. 15, Rs. 25 and Rs. 22.

Trainer: Meherji.

Favourite: Mozan.

THE BORIVLI PLATE Division III—Distance 6 furlongs.

Mr. R. S. Irani's ICELAND 8-0 Kan Singh 1
M/s B. Patel and Parker's PRINCESS MARY 8-0 Khan Z. K. 2
Mr. A. Geddis's SUNNY SKIES 8-11 A. Ahmed 3
Mr. Alimahomed Chotani's LUSTRE 7-9 S. Singh 4

Not run: Little Caesar, Eldorado.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 54. Places Rs. 17, Rs. 25 and Rs. 14.

THE TUNIS PLATE Division II—Distance 1 mile.

M/s Syed Fatah and Merchant's SAHRAN 8-10 Roberts 1
Mr. P. D. Bolton's ALL GOLD 7-12 Khade 2
Mr. D. F. Karaka's JANAB 8-11 Jones 3
M/s Tibrewalla and Modi's MALIK AL JIYAD 8-8 Raffaele .. 4

Not run: King Hilal, Faraj Allah, Dhiban.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 196. Places Rs. 55. Rs. 30 and Rs. 42.

THE SION PLATE Division I—Distance 1 mile.

Mr. Rahiman's INTIDHAR AL SHABAB 9-4 Brace 1
Mr. A. L. J. Talib's BURHAN II 9-2 Dar 2
Mr. Osman Chotani's PETER 9-0 K. Hasan 3
Mr. J. A. Abdulezer's WALDYE 8-7 Sibbritt 4

Not run: Indian Money, Shree Ranjit.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 64. Places Rs. 28, Rs. 58 and Rs. 19.

THE BORIVLI PLATE Division II—Distance 6 furlongs.

Mr. R. J. Sigtia's SNAKY HIPS 8-9 Evans 1
Mrs. Justice's LIONESS 7-13 Whiteside 2
Maharaja of Idar's PAVLOVA 8-3 Brace 3
Mr. Osman Chotani's PURE EMERALD 8-13 Raffaele 4

Not run: Rex.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 32. Places Rs. 14, Rs. 17 and Rs. 15.

THE BANGALORE PLATE—Distance 1 mile 1 furlong.

Maharaja of Baroda's FLASHING Prince 9-2 Britt 1
Maharani Chimnabai's ICE BOX 8-9 Evans 2
Maharaja of Kashmir's HURRICANE 8-0 Chavan 3
Mr. Billimoria's SAY WHEN 8-4 Kheem Singh 4

Not run: Sunny Dan

Tote paid: Win Rs. 25. Places Rs. 15, Rs. 16 and Rs. 31.

THE MATHRADAS GOCULDAS CUP—Distance 7 furlongs.

Maharani of Kolhapur's ORANGE FLOWER 7-10 Bhim Rao 1
Mr. Diamond's BAQLAVA 9-4 Khade 2
Maharaja of Parlakimedi's LEJONG 9-0 Sibbritt 3
Mr. P. B. Avasia's MARCHEUX 8-13 Burn 4

Not run: Salmon Bar, Nuit-de-Noel.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 57. Places Rs. 25, Rs. 49 and Rs. 22.

THE BORIVLI PLATE Division I—Distance 6 furlongs.

Major A. Svamvur's WHAT AGAIN 9-0 Southey 1
Mr. Abid H. Doctor's PROMISE ME 8-7 Jones 2
Mr. Osman Chotani's PRINCESS PADMA 8-5 Raffaele 3
Mr. R. J. Sigtia's SOLAR KISS 8-6 Evans 4

Not run: Peshawar Express, Irish Right, Happy Fate, Jaiwant.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 56. Places Rs. 21, Rs. 25 and Rs. 24.

THE TUNIS PLATE Division I—Distance 1 mile.

Hon. Sir Shantidas Askuran's LORD WAVELL 8-7 Evans 1
M/s B. Patel and Parker's NEW JACK 8-2 Jadhav 2
Mr. N. S. Dhunjishaw's SEVENTH WONDER 8-0 Kan Singh 3
Mr. Dhunjishaw Jamsetjee's HARUT 8-2 Shanker 4

Not run: Halfaya, Star Brilliant.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 27. Places Rs. 15, Rs. 18 and Rs. 22.

Compulsory Education Drive In Bombay

BOMBAY, Saturday.

A compulsory education drive to make the public of Bombay realise their duty of sending their children to school, was launched in the city by the Municipal Schools Committee yesterday. About 3,000 teachers will scour round the streets and lanes of Bombay for 15 days propagating this drive. The Schools Committee have also proposed to carry on 40 public meetings in different parts of the city.

Mr. Nagindas Master, Mayor of Bombay, inaugurating the drive said that the popularisation of compulsory education was the chief concern of the Corporation. He suggested that the meetings should be followed by frequent visits to the parents of children in order to persuade them to give their children the benefit of compulsory education. That would serve the cause of compulsory education more effectively than propaganda meetings, he added.

General Election In Cochin In April Or May

ERNAKULAM, Dec. 1.

It is understood that H. H. the Maharaja has decided to dissolve the Cochin Legislative Council after the present session and order the holding of general elections about April or May next. —A. P.

"Natal Indian Question Creates Serious Situation"

Prime Minister Must See That South Africa Fights For Atlantic Charter Ideals

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 1.

It is learned General Smuts has undertaken to reply the Natal Indian Congress representations in connection with Natal ordinances before December 10, when the Working Committee meets in Durban.

Indications are that the Indian objections to the housing and expropriation ordinances will be met and the ordinances approved by the Governor-General in Council in an amended form.

The main Indian objection to these ordinances was the power given to the Administrator in connection with expropriation of land for slum clearance. It is understood the objection may be met by leaving the expropriation powers in the hands of the Central Government.

The Working Committee at its meeting will decide on the line of action in the event of General Smuts' reply regarding the residential property regulation ordinance being unfavourable.

The Working Committee meeting will be followed by the Congress of Natal Indian Congress in Durban or possibly the Congress of South African Indian Congress in Cape Town depending on developments of the Indian situation.

Some Congress men advocate that in the event of South African Indian Congress being held, delegates will be invited from India, Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda and that if General Smuts' reply is unfavourable a Congress deputation will be sent to India and thence to Britain to plead the Indian case.

LONDON:— The Natal Europeans find it difficult to accept the view that the treatment of Indians in South Africa is anything more than a domestic matter confined to South Africa, states a correspondent in Natal in reviewing the problem of Indians in South Africa in the newspaper 'Economist.' The writer adds. "Commonwealth implications are set aside as of little moment. The position of General Smuts was made more difficult by the fact that his own supporters in Natal combined with Dominion and Labour Parties to insist that activities of Indians should continue to be controlled.

On the other hand, the Natal Indian Congress and the Government of India see in this new ordinance a departure from the Pretoria Agreement on the specific issue and also a threat to the whole status of Indians outside India.

The question to be settled is the future status of Indians in South Africa. Articulate European opinion fastens upon big emigration schemes and upon residential, social and economic segregation for those who are left behind.

Indians are implacably opposed to both emigration and segregation. It is thus a serious situation for the Prime Minister who has to consider not only that the problem of racial minority must be solved but that South Africa is part of the Commonwealth fighting for the aims of the Atlantic Charter."—Reuter.

THE LAST PAGE

(Continued From Page 18)

mocratic trends within the Kuomintang. As party bosses they suppressed the Left Wing of the party and, as Information Minister, Chen Li-fu was responsible for strict political censorship. They are both rabid anti-Communists and, being nationalists of the chauvinist type, also Xenophobes. Once it was said in China, "*Chiang Chia Tien Hsia Chen Chia Tang*" (The country belongs to the Chiang family and the party (Kuomitang belongs to the Chens). According to Edgar Snow, "Probably no influence so severely checked the development of democratic institutions as the C. C. bureaucracy and its modifications may indicate the nature of political changes now." The words sound prophetic in view of the recent removal of Chen Li-fu from the Cabinet.

General Ho Ying Chin, the War Minister, who has also been replaced in the Cabinet, is also counted among those who stand against the movement for extension of democracy in China. He, too, suffers from the anti-Communist complex. His removal is a good augury for the maintenance and consolidation of the United Front.

Then there are (from all accounts) a number of profiteers and capitalists who have amassed wealth out of the war and the misery of the people, and naturally oppose any extension of people's democratic rights.

★

Madame

The recent movements of Madame Chiang Kai-shek are somewhat shrouded in mystery. At present she is in America for treatment of nervour disorders caused ed by the strain of war and she has made no statement for quite some time.

Where does she stand in the alignment of Chinese politics. Right? Left? Centre—along with her husband?

When Marshal Chiang once said that she was worth ten divisions, he was not simply paying a gallant compliment to his charming and devoted wife. She *has* played a decisive, memorable part in mobilizing the Chinese people, in keeping up their morale, and in linking China's war with the other democracies—particularly the U.S.A. For the rest of the world she, with her American education and accent, has served as the mouthpiece and symbol of China.

Not so advanced politically as her sister, Madame Sun Yat-Sen, she has yet been definitely a liberalizing influence on her husband. And on many occasions she is known to have out-argued and out-witted the reactionary clique.

★

This, then, is China—panorama and portraits!

As friends of China, what should be our attitude to this gallant neighbour of ours? To my mind it is clear that the following should constitute the fundamentals of our attitude:—

China is our friend and neighbour and our freedom is inevitably linked with hers. We must become free to be able to help free China.

We believe that China has the right to all her territories without encroachment by any imperialist Powers—Japanese or any other brand!

The Central Government of China, with Marshal Chiang as its head, is the supreme authority in China and no outside power has a right to interfere with this authority—or to dictate policies to Chungking.

By eight years of heroic resistance against the fascist Japan, China has earned the gratitude of all the freedom-loving people of the world and deserves every possible help—material and moral—that can be given to her to beat the Japanese.

It is the whole of China—Kuomintang, Communists, and the common people belonging to neither party—that has fought Japan and, therefore, it is to them as a whole and unitedly that the future of China belongs.

Within China, our sympathies are naturally with those who are working for the extension of democracy, for we believe that it is only thus that China can defeat Japan and lay the foundations of her future well-being.

We know that there are reactionaries, exploiters, cliques and factions in China—as there are in India, in every other country—and the recognition of the fact does not in any way lessen our affection for the Chinese people or affect our solidarity with the Chinese Government in its historic anti-imperialist struggle.

With Lin Yutang, we believe that:

"For a time yet there will still be ugliness and pain, but after a while there will be calm and beauty and simplicity, the calm and beauty and simplicity which distinguished old China. But more than that, there will be justice, too."

And to our Chinese friends we commend the words of the founder of their republic, "Hold on, Comrades."

Military To Aid Police In Combating Hur Menace

KARACHI, Dec. 2.

It is understood that military has been despatched to assist the police to apprehend the Hurs responsible for breaching the Barrage Canal and inundating large tracts of land. Damage to standing crops is estimated at Rs. 700.000. Loss of cattle is also reported

The Hurs are said to have taken shelter in a forest which has been surrounded by the police.—A.P.

A group photograph taken on the occasion of the Standing Committee meeting of the All-India women's conference.

JAMNADAS MEHTA DENOUNCES M. N. ROY

Asks Labour Unions To Withdraw From I.F.L.

MOGHALSARAI, Nov. 28.—Speaking at the open session of a special convention of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation on the 24th and the 25th here Mr. Jamnadas Mehta strongly denounced Mr. M. N. Roy and the Indian Federation of Labour for having accepted the sum of Rs. 13,000 per month, which he characterised as a great burden on the tax-payer. He further pointed out that the Government of India fell a victim to Mr. M. N. Roy. He appealed to the unions which are affiliated to the Indian Federation of Labour to withdraw their affiliation forthwith.

The convention passed a resolution denouncing the Railway Board's decision of sanctioning dearness allowance only to those railway servants drawing above Rs. 40 and extending the same to officers drawing upto Rs. 1.000 per month. In the opinion of the Federation the exclusion of the railway servants getting below Rs. 40 deprived more than 75 p.c. of the railwaymen of this benefit.

The Federation in the same resolution demanded dearness allowance at a flat rate of Rs. 45 on the basis of the sliding scale to all railway servants drawing upto Rs. 250 per month without any zones and the appointment of an adjudicator.

The convention further resolved that in the event of the failure of the Government of India to concede the above just demands of the railwaymen, the Federation would be compelled to recommend to the affiliated unions all necessary and appropriate actions including ballot for a general strike

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta tendered his resignation of the presidentship of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation. Mr. S. C. Joshi, General Secretary of the G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union was unanimously elected President of the Federation.

The convention was attended by Messrs. Jamnadas Mehta, S. Guruswamy, S. C. Joshi, V. R. Kalappa, K. Ananda Nambiar, M. L. Narasimham, and by representatives of about 30 railway unions.

The convention accepted Mr. Jamnadas Mehta's resignation and appointed Mr S. C Joshi, President of the Federation, in his place.—A.P.

Punjab Ban On Congress M. L. A.'s To Go?

LAHORE, Dec. 2.

A surprise is likely to be sprung by the Government at the eleventh hour of the opening day of the Punjab Assembly by deciding to remove the restrictions now imposed on 13 Congress members of the Assembly prohibiting them from attending the Assembly.

It is reported that the Premier might make a statement removing these restrictions just after the question hour on December 4.

There is, however, little chance of the eight Congress members of the Assembly, who are still in jail, being released at present.—United Press.

Mian Iftikhar-ud-dins' Parole Extended

LAHORE, Dec. 2.

The parole period of Mian Iftikhar-Ud-Din, President of the Punjab Provincial Congress Committee, which was to have ended to-morrow, has been extended by the Punjab Government by one month.

Main Iftikhar-Ud-Din was released from jail on parole some weeks ago on grounds of health.—A. P.

17 Madras Detenus To Be Released

MADRAS, Dec. 2: The Madras Government have ordered the release of 17 detenus belonging to Coimbatore District from Tanjore Special Jail.—United Press.

"I AM NOT GOING TO U. S. TO BEG FOR INDIA'S CAUSE"

Foreign Nations Won't Help Us To Solve Our Problem, Says Mrs. Pandit

KARACHI, Dec. 2.

"I am not going to America to beg for India's cause. I am going there for rest and also to sse my daughters. I am convinced that Britain, America, China or Russia will give us no help in solving India's problem of freedom. At any rate if Americans or any organisation ask my opinion regarding the conditions in India I shall be willing to place before them the Congress demands and the needs of the country."

Thus observed Mrs. Vijayluxmi Pandit in course of an interview to a representative of the Orient Press.

Mrs. Pandit vehemently protested against the news appearing in certain section of the press to the effect that she willl be staying with Sir J. S. Bajpai, the Agent General for India in America. She had fixed no programme, said she.

Referring to Bengal she said that the conditions there not the same as the last year. Grains were available, but people had no purchasng power. If situation were not handled wisely the last year's tragedy might repeat itself.—Orient Press.

MRS. PANDIT LEAVES INDIA

KARACHI, Dec. 2.

Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit has left for America.

Prior to her departure she met local Congressmen whom she advised to learn self-sacrifice. She said: "We cannot achieve freedom by begging, we can only achieve it by sacrifices."—A.P.

SIT-DOWN STRIKE IN B. B. & C. I. R.

Suburban Traffic Disorganised

BOMBAY, Dec 2.

Nearly 5,000 workers belonging to certain sections of the B.B. and C. I. Railway have struck work from yesterday evening. Local suburban traffic has been disorganised.

The strike, it is stated, is a sit-down strike.

An official of the B.B. and C.I. Railway told the Associated Press that no notice of the strike had been given to the administration nor a formulation of their grievances.

Dr. Syed Mahmood arrived in Bangalore on Sunday morning and was received at the city railway station by a large gathering of local Congressmen.

12TH WEEK
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PUBLIC NOTICES

B B & C. I. RAILWAY NOTICE.

Temporary Reduction in Bombay Suburban Train Service

Owing to difficulty in maintaining and repairing electric trains, it is regretted that there will be a considerable reduction in the number of electric suburban trains run with immediate effect. The public are therefcre advised to avoid travelling as far as possible and suburban residents should stay in Bombay if they are able to do so. The service will be restored as early as possible. 1220.

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CITY MARKETS

Bombay Cotton

BOMBAY, Dec. 2.

On Monday the local cotton market will close at 3 p m being Digambari Jain Rath Yatra. The local market opened at Rs. 424 for March delivery and advanced to Rs. 426/4 under moderate buying. Later on there was scattered realising and March steadied at Rs. 425/12. The undertone of the market is keeping firm and after the recent rise, selling pressure is diminishing.

The Board took no decision on the question of the Super Appeal Committee and further discussion will take place next Friday. The market closed at 3 p.m. as under:—

I.C.C. March	424 8 0
I.C.C. May	430 0 0

COTTON PARITY

Indian Cotton March Contract is 539 cent points below New York March at Exchange rate 331.

HIGH & LOW COTTON PRICES

BOMBAY, Dec. 1.

	High	Low	Close
I.C.C. March	426	422	424/12
I.C.C. May	430/4	426/8	429
Karachi Mar.	42/4/9	42'6/3	42/1/2

Gold And Silver

BOMBAY, Dec. 2.

The local bullion market was quietly steady with a limited turnover and quotations moved within a narrow range. Forward Gold opened at Rs. 64/12 and steadied at Rs. 64/8 while ready Gold was placed Rs. 64/11. Forward Silver opened at Rs 120 and under scattered selling declined to Rs. 119/12 and ready Silver was placed at Rs. 120/12.

INDIAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Tata Ordinary 406 Tata Deferred 2182/8 Indian Iron 38/12 Steel Corpn. of Bengal 32/12 Bombay Dyeing 1843/12 Central India 422/8 Century 855 Gokak 325 Kohinoor 615 Simplex 287 Andhra Valley 1830 Tata Hydro 28/2 Tata Power 1925 Associated Cement 246/8 Belapur 239/6 Bombay Burma (Old) 495

CALICUT QUOTATIONS.

CALICUT, Dec. 2.

Cocoanuts Raw 75 Dry 80, Cocoanut Oil 365, Copra Office 220, Dilpasand 237/8, Madrasnottam 325, Good Gooda 232/8, Pepper Wynaad 330 Country 320, Dry Ginger Chernad 175, Ernad 160, Coffee Robusta 103.

NEW YORK COTTON MARKET DULL WITH SAGGING TENDENCY

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.

Prices early advanced on overnight accumulation of fixations with lightness of hedges attributed to the effects of the Government programmes. Prices then sagged on liquidation of December despite the absence of notices which affected the whole list. The State Department's post-war plans for international commodity agreements were temporarily disregarded. Trading continued dull with the sagging tendency attributed chiefly to indifferent demand and absence of fresh trading incentives. The session closed barely steady.

NEW YORK COTTON

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.

December	21.67—03
January	21.65—03
March	21.75—01
May	21.74—01
July	21.53—04
October	20.81—04
Dec. Highest (10-10 a.m.)	21.76+06
Dec. Lowest (2-51 p m)	21.66—04
Middling Spot	22.14+01

NEW ORLEANS COTTON

December 21.61—03 March 21.79—02
Middling Spot 21.25.

NOON CALL

December 21.72 March 21.79 May 21.78

LONDON BULLION

LONDON, Dec. 1.

Spot 23-1/2 Forward 23-1/2 Gold bars fine per oz. £8/8/0

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

LONDON, Dec. 1.

	£
Rupee Paper 3-1/2 p c	72-1/2
Consols 2-1/2 p c	81-15/16
Conversion Loan 3-1/2 p c 1961	105-15/16
War Loan 3-1/2 p c	104-3/16
Funding Loan 4 p c 1960/90	113-9/16
Victory Bonds 4 p c	113-3/4
Chartered Bank of I. A. & China	11-1/8
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank (London Reg.)	84
National Bank of India	42-3/4

LONDON WHEAT

LONDON, Dec. 1.

Wheat Rozario Santa Fe (new crop) 41 Dec quoted Feb.

Wheat Australian (bulk) 45 Dec/Jan quoted Feb.

Wheat Australian (bags) 48 Dec/Jan. quoted Feb.

ALL-INDIA WEATHER

POONA, Dec. 2: The following is the weather chart showing the maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall in inches recorded at 9 a.m. (L. M. T.) on Nov 29:—

Allahabad 80 51 0 BOMBAY 94 74 0, Calcutta 82 56 0, Cawnpore 80 57 0, Cuttack 85 59 0 Darjeeling 51 40 0, Delhi 77 48 0, Dehra Dun 74 45 0 Jacobabad 86 54 0, Karachi 84 69 9, Lahore 79 45 0 Lucknow 81 49 0, Madras 81 70 0 Nagpur 82 56 0, Patna 81 54 0, Peshawar 71 47 0, Shillong 64 41 0, Simla 58 44 0.—A P.

The Executive Committee of the Indian Federation of Labour has decided to hold the next annual conference of the Federation at Jamshedpur on December 23 and 24.

Why I Oppose The Communal Pentangular?

By J. C. MAITRA

There has been some correspondence in the press of late about the wisdom of continuing the Pentangular Cricket Tournament on communal basis. Its supporters stoutly protest that these matches are played in the best of spirit. They contend that it encourages communal harmony and at the same time exhibits the best of Cricket in the country. In support of their contentions they point out the thousands of spectators at the Brabourne Stadium—there were as many as 40,000 of them this year—who enjoy the contests most heartily from beginning to end. Rarely is there an untoward incident to mar their harmony. And last but not the least the tournament helps to raise the standard of the game throughout the country, as players are drawn from all its corners. It is in fact due to this competition that India has reached international status in the world of cricket.

PRIMARY OBJECT OF SPORT

Before I try to controvert the above arguments, let us first of all ask ourselves the question, "What is the primary object of sport?" I am sure everybody will agree that it is to provide healthy recreation to the people. As mere playing of games by individuals by themselves would not afford any interest to players and spectators, competitions are arranged on various bases to provide the incentive for them. The international and national competitions are the highest forms of such contests. Before that stage is reached tournaments and matches of various kinds like inter-clubs, inter-colleges and inter-schools competitions are held. Such is the case with team games. In individual games like Lawn tennis, table tennis and badminton, appropriate competitions are arranged by various organisations.

A UNIQUE GROWTH

The basis of all these contests are healthy rivalry between the contestants and their supporters. In our midst has grown a competition which is unique in its composition of rival parties. To start with, it had only two sides to the duel, the Europeans and the Parsis. Some years later—in 1906 to be exact—the Hindus were accepted in the fold when the competition became Triangular. In the year 1912, the Muslims were accorded admission to make the event a Quadrangular. This form continued till the year 1937 when the Indian Christians, etc., who were so far left out of the carnival, were accommodated to turn the competition into its present form —The Pentangular

BASED ON RELIGIOUS COMPLEXION

The main objection against this form of competition is that the contending parties in it are selected for their religious faiths. I do not know of any part of the civilised world where tournaments are held on religious basis. It is not that there are no religious divisions in other parts of the world. The Roman Catholics and the Protestants with their various sects abound in many parts of this earth. But they have never thought of holding competitions between representatives of the various sects In tiny Britain they hold international matches between England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, but not between the representatives of various Churches existing there!

ITS TENTACLES SPREADING

Then why this introduction of religion into Indian sport? I would not go to the length of attributing any base motive to the promoters of this tournament. They organised it with the object of greater social contact between the communities concerned and at the same time improving the standard of the game among the members of each community so as to outbid the others in course of time. Originally this tournament was restricted to local players only. But gradually the doors were opened wide enough to admit players from all parts of India. Thus it has acquired an all-India status. Consequently its importance in the sporting life of the country is very great To make matters worse, such tournaments have been inaugurated in other parts of the country also

FIRST NOTE OF WARNING

Were it not for the terrible growth of communalism—or rather religious fanaticism in this unfortunate country in recent years, I would not have felt the necessity for a change in the basis of this competition. As long ago as 1929 I sounded a note of warning It was Sir Chunilal V. Mehta, an ex-captain of the Hindus who became the Finance Member of the Government of Bombay, who was the first to suggest a tournament on territorial basis. Then my friend A.A.A Fyzee gave an outline for a Zonal Quadrangular. With a view to draw more interest towards the new tournament in this city I proposed a Pentangular with Bombay as the centre. That is how the Zonal Scheme appeared before the public.

CHANGE OF ATMOSPHERE

The chief defect of the present Festival is that it stresses on its communal aspect. In the old days when the relations between the various communities were perfectly cordial, this did not matter very much, although demonstrations were not wanting to make the relations, especially between the Hindus and the Parsis, then the two leading communities at the cricket field, far from happy for some time even after the completion of the tournament. Now the situation is quite different. It is most unfortunate for our motherland that her two leading communities are at loggerheads on the political field. Its repercussions are also noticed on the sports area.

BAR TO GROWTH OF NATIONALISM

Ordinarily one does not apprehend trouble. When teams win by large margins, everybody applauds the wining side It is only when the battle is keen and the verdict is gained very narrowly, the feelings are strained and bad blood is shown. Under the present circumstances, all such outlets must be avoided. But there is a greater reason for its abolition. Such contests, while encouraging the spread of communalism, prevent the growth of the spirit of nationalism, the virtue which is most needed in this country at present. It is a most unfortunate fact that communal rivalry and jealousy have vitiated the minds of many of our sportsmen who do not mince them when it comes to the question of selecting provincial or national teams. Many a prominent cricketer has referred to this baneful result of the Pentangular

MAKE IT A PLANK FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

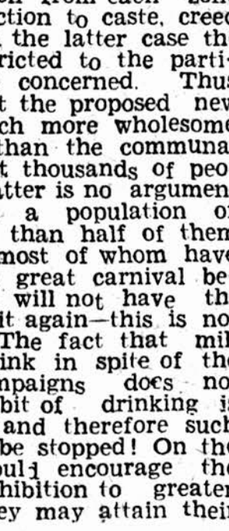
The Tournament which has just concluded has been acclaimed as a great success by all those who have seen it. The people are said to have given their unequivocal verdict in favour of its continuance. In spite of the appeals of Shri Nagindas T. Master and Shri S. K. Patil, thousands of people assembled at the Brabourne Stadium from day to day. This is claimed to be a great victory for the Pro-Pentangularites. It is a pity these two Congress leaders issued their appeals very late in the day—when most people had purchased their season tickets. If a move had been made in good time—Relief Fund or Famine Fund would not have helped the sponsors of this competition. If the pro-Pentangularites are so very sanguine about the popular support they should make it a plank of their next municipal election campaign and let us see the result.

A GRAND SUBSTITUTE

The Zonal Pentangular suggested above has all the virtues of the communal tournament plus national spirit and minus the communal virus. In fact it will be much more representative of Indian Cricket as a whole than the communal festival can ever be. Because the players in the former event will be chosen from each zone without any restriction to caste, creed or colour, while in the latter case the selections are restricted to the particular communities concerned. Thus it will be seen that the proposed new competition is much more wholesome and interesting than the communal one. The fact that thousands of people support the latter is no argument in its favour. In a population of thirty lakhs more than half of them are floating and most of whom have never seen such a great carnival before and perhaps will not have the chance of seeing it again—this is not at all surprising. The fact that millions of people drink in spite of the Temperance Campaigns does not mean that the habit of drinking is healthy and good and therefore such campaigns should be stopped! On the other hand, it should encourage the supporters of prohibition to greater activity so that they may attain their goal sooner.

FIRST CHINESE PH.D. IN INDIA

The Syndicate of the Bombay University has declared Mr. Chou Tafu as eligible for the Ph.D. degree The degree will be formally conferred upon him at the next convocation of the University. Dr. Chou arrived from China in 1939, with Prof. Tan Yun-Shan. He studied at the Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan during 1939-1941, and later worked in the Sanskrit Department of the Calcutta University 1941-1942. under the then Head of the Department, M. M. Pt. Vidusekhar Bhattacharya Sastri, Asutosh. Professor of Sanskrit.



During the year 1942-1943. Dr. Chou was working as a Chinese war-correspondent attached to the Chinese Journal of India, Calcutta. In 1943, he joined the Bombay University as a Ph.D. candidate and worked at the Fergusson College, Poona, under the guidance of Dr. V. V. Goknale He submitted in September 1944 his thesis on "Three Buddhist Hymns" (Stotras) restored into Sanskrit from Chinese Transliterations of the Tenth Century, A.D., "which was jointly examined by Dr. Gokhale and Dr. P. C. Degchi of the Calcutta University.

Before coming to India, Dr. Chou was on the editing staff of a "Great Chinese Dictionary on Historical Principles", under the Chinese Ministry of Education. He has been specialising in the "Sanskrit-Chinese Translation and Transliteration", for the last five years in India, and has received research grants from the Chinese Ministry of Education, from the Sino-India Cultural Society in China, Chungking, and also from the Bombay University.

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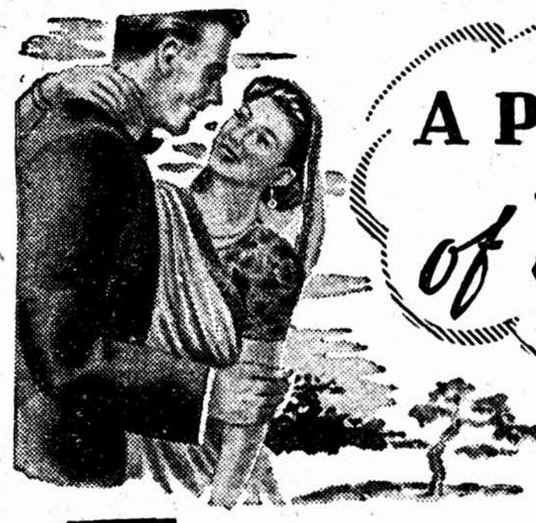

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Political Lead For India

LONDON, Dec. 2.—The call for a political lead for India, corresponding to that now being made in planned economy, was made by "The Times" in a leader this morning. It says:

"The visit paid to India last winter by Prof. A. V Hill on behalf of the Royal Society and the presence of distinguished scientists from India together constitute an example of the kind of Indo-British co-operation which is particularly important in promoting a better understanding between the two people."

Turning to the second report of the Reconstruction Committees, "The Times" observes:

"The task of raising India's standard of living to the level which will enable her to play an effective part in the world is tremendous alike in its magnitude and in its complexity. It will demand the co-operation of the best scientific brains in India and in Britain But there is real hope of a successful solution in the combination of the popular demand with the official response which has so far marked every stage of the present "drive" towards planned economy.

"The force behind the movement is the conviction, long held in certain quarters and now cherished by almost all classes of its absolute necessity. In giving the lead represented by this report, the authorities are acting in closest conformity with leading Indian opinion on the scientific control of economic matters. It is surely time that a corresponding lead based upon an equivalent identity of purpose should be forthcoming in the field of political development no whit less important for Indo-British relations."—Reuter

WHEN CHURCHILL WAS SAVED FROM "DESTRUCTION"!

(From Our Correspondent.)
LONDON, Dec. 2.

A proposal to send a telegram congratulating Mr. Churchill on his seventieth birthday was dropped in the House of Commons Belfast, on November 30, after Mr. J. Beattie, Labour protested that they were going to make the House a "medium of telegram hypocrisy".

When Mr. Maynard Sinclair, Acting Premier, made the proposal, Mr. Beattie said he remembered the unionist party meeting Mr. Churchill in a very hostile manner in that city "if the right honourable gentleman and his party had had their way on 8/2, 1912, Mr. Churchill never would have had his seventieth birthday".

Mr. Beattie added "this is true. I am now going to congratulate him not solely on his attaining his seventieth birthday but on being saved in 1912 from destruction which the Tory party of this city had organised and were determined to carry out but were prevented from doing so by myself and many others. There are members sitting on Government front bench"

Here the speaker intervened saying "I think the House would be well advised to drop this or allow the telegram to be sent and leave out politics altogether."

Mr. Beattie continued "I am not going to oppose the telegram being sent but on this side there are members who did 14 hours' duty for protecting the life of the man whom you are now going to send a telegram. What I am opposing is the insincerity of the Government sending this telegram through you"

Mr. Beattie added, if they had their way Mr. Churchill would have been in his grave. Since 1912, he has not forgotten you and I have not forgotten you. If this is the way you are going to try to pat him on the back, call him, hail fellow, well met. I totally disagree".

Later, the proposal was dropped.

No Schools On Dec. 9

Mahatma's Advice To Students: "Your Duty To Get Leaders Released"

(From Our Correspondent.)
AHMEDABAD, Dec. 2.

Mahatma Gandhi has written a letter here giving instructions about the duty of students on the 9th "National Day". It runs as follows: "Leaders who are in jail are performing their duty. A "Satyagrahi" in jail always renders service. There is no rule that a "Satyagrahi" out of jail can do more service. But those who are out of jail have got their duty—to get them released and not to forget them. If we have got strength it is impossible that our leaders or any "Satyagrahi" may remain in jail but if we have not got sufficient strength we should show what we have.

"Hence, I desire that students should not go to schools on the 9th "National Day", but there is a condition that students should be engrossed in self-purification and spend the whole day in Sevakarya" I do not consider it necessary to add that students should take in mind that there should be complete non-violence and truth in their activities. Collective Civil Disobedience is suspended. It has not yet begun, but the fight for freedom continues and will continue till we attain independence. At the same time students should not forget their limits in decisions. They should decide in consultations with 'Sanchalaks' and teachers'.

Bapu's Blessings.

Gandhiji's Message To Ahmedabad Workers

AHMEDABAD Dec. 2.

Mahatma Gandhi has sent a message in Gujarati to 1,40,000 mill operatives of Ahmedabad on the occasion of the celebration of Labour Day in memory of the foundation of the Textile Labour Association by him 26 years ago.

Mahatma Gandhi states "Labour has made great strides in Ahmedabad. But much remains to be done yet. I cannot be satisfied till the credit of labour rises higher than that of capital. Nor should labour be satisfied. That position will not be attained till unity, Hundred per cent honesty and education with knowledge are acquitted. There is no place for caste, creed or communalism in the ranks of labour. There is equality of rights between men and women".—A. P.

Brig. K. M. Cariappa, 7th Rajput Regiment, the Indian Army's first Indian brigadier from a combatant unit. He has been appointed a member of the Army Reorganisation Committee at G. H. Q. (India) which is to examine and report on the post-war structure of the Indian Army.

TWO PICTURES OF ALLIED SHELL SITUATION

No Slackening In Production, Says Churchill

LONDON, Dec. 2.

Two important statements on shell supplies to Allied armies were made last night. Mr. Churchill stated that a still further increase of the flow was to be made from the British factories.

Mr. Henry Stimson, U. S. War Secretary revealed that General Eisenhower "had delayed the present general offensive until he could accumulate more reserve of artillery ammunition".

Mr. Churchill was replying to a letter from Sir Walter Citrine, President of the British Trade Union Congress, referring to the shell shortage confronting the American troops. Sir Walter stated that the T. U. C. could not conceive any grounds of apprehension of shortage in this country. The Premier's letter said: "At the beginning of 1943, products of our shell plants were so far ahead of consumption that we felt we should slow down the production and transfer where possible to other forms of munitions such as aircraft. By the first quarter of 1944, however, experience of battles in Italy and imminence of invasion of France made it evident that firing on a much larger scale would be necessary. Consequently, the filling of existing stocks of empty shells from past productions was put in hand.

"Steps were taken to reinstate production of new shells on large scale, both in Canada and Britain Special conferences have been presided over by me on April 18 and October 25 and a still further increased flow has been arranged. There is no ground for suggesting that there has been the slightest slackening of effort of those engaged in our plants and the highest praise is due to them all.

"British troops at the front have every reason to be satisfied with the work of their comrades, men and women, in the munition factories"

SITUATION CRITICAL

Mr. Stimson's statement issued in Washington added: "The artillery situation is critical and it will remain so unless U. S. production is increased. Our consumption of shells is ten times as much as the German. The reasons for the shortage are, firstly, the disruption of railways after a break secondly incapacity of ports for shipments from Britain lastly dwindling of reserves in America.

"The opening of Antwerp will greatly increase shipping possibilities and corresponding increase will be needed in the amount of ammunition made in America"—United Press of India.

"Ike" Has Delayed Offensive Due To Shortage, Says Stimson

"THERE IS A WAR ON"

NEW YORK, Dec. 2: Seven U. S. soldiers who fought against the Germans have arrived home. They have been instructed by General Eisenhower to "let the people know that there is a war on". They will, it is stated, tell the factory workers: "We were firing fifty rounds where we would like to fire five hundred". —United Press.

More Light On

ANGLO-AMERICAN CLASH AT AIR CONFERENCE

(Reuter's Special Correspondent).

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—In the first major attempt to reconcile their post-war economic aims the United States and the United Kingdom came to a "headon clash", in the words of Mr. Adolf Berle, head of the American Delegation, at the International Air Conference which is drawing to its close after a month's protracted and politically speaking fruitless negotiations.

Several questions are now being asked about the outcome of the Conference. Firstly why did Anglo-American co-operation—so successful in the three years of common war—fail in the matter of international aviation? The main difficulty in getting an agreement was, according to Lord Swintoon, Leader of the British delegation, "major differences of opinion" between the British and Americans. The United States held the firm position insisting on unfettered air competition.

The British stood firm for controlled competition that would give each country a fair chance to take its place in the field of world air transport unmenaced by danger from huge airlines which have been growing during the war in some countries while other nations engaged in total war effort had to abandon their air transportation.

Recipients of "The Bhikhaiji Limjibhoy Palamkote Prizes" of £ 12 and a Gold Medal for 1943 Associateship in Pianoforte Playing: (left to right) Misses Gool M. Titina, Zenobia P. Anklesaria, Roda R. Contractor and Mehroo P. Kanga.

Congress-Govt. Co-operation?

(From Our Correspondent.)
ALLAHABAD, Dec. 2: A meeting of the United Provinces Congress Assembly Party is likely to be to held next month.

At present there are about 80 Congress M.L.A's outside jail.

It appears that there is a move that Congress M.L.A.'s should co-operate with the various committees constituted by the Provincial Government.

It is stated that Mrs. Uma Nehru has been invited to serve on some of these committees.

Some Congress legislators are already members of these committees. There appears to be a definite move forward towards co-operation with the Government. It is not clear whether this move is based upon some wider policy which the Congress is seeking to initiate.

The question being asked is: Whether the Congress is going to recapture power in the Province and end the Advisers' Raj? Babu Purushottamdas Tandon has already taken up duties as Speaker of the Assembly.

RAISMAN FOR U.P. GOVERNORSHIP?

(From Our Correspondent).
NEW DELHI, Dec. 2.

I am given to understand Sir Jeremy Raisman, Finance Member to the Government of India, will be the next Governor of U.P. after Sir Maurice Hallet retires in November, 1945.

Sir Jeremy will proceed to London soon after the budget session of the Central Assembly to discuss the question of Sterling Balances. He will be accompanied by some non-officials. He is also likely to discuss the question of allocation of war expenditure between India and Britain. Thereafter he will take four months' leave before he returns to Lucknow.

15 Persons Drowned In Ferry Disaster

NELLORE, Dec. 2: Fifteen persons are reported to have been drowned when a boat with 50 passengers capsized while ferrying across Pennar River to-day.—A. P.

ACQUITTED ON APPEAL

BIJAPUR, Dec. 1.—The appeal of Huchappa Sirur and two others against the sentence passed on them by the Resident Magistrate of Bagalkot was allowed by the Sessions Judge of Bijapur and all the three accused were acquitted. The accused were alleged to have cut telegraph wires and poles, on the Sirub-Bagalkot line in June last.—A.P.

JOWAR PRICES REDUCED

BOMBAY, Dec. 3.

A press note issued by the Supply Commissioner, Bombay, states that the retail selling price of jowar in Bombay City and Bombay Suburban District has been temporarily reduced from 12 annas a paylee to 9 annas a paylee from Sunday Dec. 3. This, it is said, is likely to reduce the inconvenienced caused by the absence of bajri.—A.P.

Should Women Smoke?

'Why Shouldn't They?

Asks Mrs. H. M.

The elderly woman in the seat before me in the bus turned to her companion: "My dear, did you see that?" She exclaimed in disapproving tones. "I don't know what girls are coming to now-a-days. Wherever you go you see women smoking—openly, and in public. Disgraceful, I call it. When I was young"—the rest of this interesting commentary was cut short by the roar of the bus as it lurched forward to meet the next lap of its journey. But the remarks already made by the lady were enough to set me thinking on the controversial subject of smoking for women.

Why are so many people, even in the twentieth century, opposed to woman's enjoyment of the fragrant weed? I am driven to the conclusion that it is nothing but old-fashioned prejudice. For the only sound argument that can be brought against smoking, that it—or, rather, excess of it—is injurious to health, is one that applies to smoking generally, and not only to smoking for women.

QUITE LADYLIKE

Among the many arguments brought against smoking one of the most common is that it is "unladylike." Those who maintain this forget that we have left the days of Victorian prudery and crinoline coyness far behind us, and that what is unladylike in one age need not necessarily be so in another. There might be something incongruous in picturing a cigarette between the lips of the Victorian young lady, who threw up her hands in horror if a man said "Damn", and who fainted with maidenlike delicacy at the slightest suggestion of anything that might upset her frail nerves.

HARMLESS PLEASURE

But smoking seems to be a natural accompaniment to the intense and varied activities of the modern woman, who has taken her place beside man as a rational, thinking, working human being, helping him in the struggle towards a better world-order. No man will deny that a cigarette helps him to work at his job, and helps relaxation in the few brief minutes he may snatch off work in his crowded working day. It is therefore selfish and ungenerous of men—for men are amongst the most ardent opponents of smoking for women—to deny the pleasure of smoking to women. Women in every profession need the soothing or stimulating—for it can be both—help of a cigarette. The nurse needs it in the few minutes during which she can relax in the rest-room be-

The Secretary needs it between the spells of taking down the boss's dictation.

fore going back to the wards. The secretary needs it between spells of taking down the bosse's dictation. The professor needs it after a forty-five minutes' harangue to a huge class of students. The journalist needs it to help her to write. The warm glow of a cigarette's sympathy can only be appreciated by those who have worked and smoked. Today, especially, when under wartime conditions, the strain on mind, muscle and nerves is greater than it has ever been before, it is foolish to deny women the harmless pleasure of a smoke

It is not only the working woman, however, who is entitled to the pleasure of a smoke. Her more domestic sister also has very good claims on it Housekeeping, never a very easy job, has become unusually difficult in these days. At a time when every decent meal coaxed or bullied out of the cook is a festival occasion, and every moderately successful shopping expedition becomes a triumphal march the housewife is fully entitled to a pleasant smoke to soothe her frayed nerves or rest her aching muscles

HUMAN VALUE

Apart from its uses to the professional or domestic woman, the cigarette has its social and human values too. There is nothing so friendly as a cigarette, and nothing so pleasant as to smoke one with a person one likes. It makes acquaintance more informal, and friendship more sweet.

Finally, the cigarette, because it helps one to think calmly and honestly, is an aid to wisdom. To take only one instance, we women, with the best of intentions, find ourselves quarrelling very easily, even with our dearest friends. A little argument leads to a tiff, and we retire in indignation, self-righteous and pompous. We go home and seek the solitude of our room, and reach for a cigarette. We begin, at first, to let off steam. "That was a bad bust-up. Fancy a woman like Sushila saying such things. I would never have thought it of her." And then, as we take puff after puff, and watch the fragrant blue smoke curling up to the ceiling, calmness, sanity and sense, steal into us. "Perhaps I was to blame, too. I did say some terribly nasty things. In fact, come to think of it, I was the first to be nasty. She was perfectly justified in blowing up. I drove her to it, I am afraid." Having come to the end of your cigarette and your meditations, you reach for pen and paper. "My dear Sushila, I am dreadfully sorry for what happened this afternoon. I am afraid it was all my fault. I hope....."

INSANITY

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It Looks Silly!

says LAKSHMI

Well! To speak the truth, I always had a good mind, a great desire to make people see smoking from my point of view. Now, when the contributor has actually invited our opinions, I gladly seize this golden opportunity to express my views with the greatest pleasure.

Smoking is strictly speaking a filthy habit. It taints the lips, discolours the fingers, irritates the throat and sets such a bad odour. Neither a whole bottle of 'Evening in Paris' nor a full box of Cuticura Powder can really overcome this smell which always reigns supreme.

CHILDISH

When men only look so foolish, imagine a woman, with cigarette in hand, watching the curling of its blue smoke with a childish attitude. It looks simply absurd. I always feel amused to see such a person. He reminds me of a tiny kid puffing air into a balloon or a little child struggling to blow soap-bubbles.

Smoke for pleasure. What pleasure do you derive from it? To be frank, most people smoke, not for pleasure's sake but for fashion, to be modern, to keep up to date.

Many boys and girls fresh from college step out into the world with empty heads, knowing little or nothing of studies and other useful things but having a very good knowledge of useless things and possessing dirty habits, exceedingly harmful to health to begin with, they start smoking. The cigarette is their symbol of education

LIKE ENGINES!

Formerly, when a man wanted a smoke, he asked the permission of the lady present, for ladies then took offence, they were supposed to be gentle, quite unable to stand, tobacco smell. Now, I feel greatly surprised to see those very same weak darlings, yearning for a cigarette and sighing for a smoke.

I often meet weak men and lean ladies who appear to have no strength at all to stand on their feet but actually puffing powerfully at their cigarettes. My mind immediately turns to the engine. I cannot help feeling that smoke is just helping them to move as in the case of the engine. Well, this is one advantage in smoking I must admit.

Some wise guys say that smoking helps people to think imagine things and devise plans. Why, oh why cannot a person think, imagine and devise without the help of smoke, by just scratching his nut, fiddling with his ruler or biting hard at his pen?

Taking Pictures At 500 Miles An Hour

By Squadron Leader A. C. H. PURTHREY

A group of tents, caravans and trucks dotted around the meadows which fringe an airfield in Britain, a force of fighter aircraft and a staff in which R.A.F. and Army seem inseparably merged—these constitute the air eyes of the men who plan the war on Hitler's Europe.

Their job is to put on the office tables of the Allied war planners the "evidence in camera" of what goes on in German-held territory. Day after day the pilots fly their cameras over Europe and bring home the results. Day after day the mobile darkroom turn the films into thousands of pictures which show Germany's defences, her man-power, her armour, the railways and roads by which she moves her war material.

The huge task is a three-part job. First, the aerial reconnaissance mainly by photography but often also from the mouths of the pilots, who know what to look for and how to recognise it and tell about it. Second, is the turning of thousands of feet of film into pictures—a task in which R.A.F. men perform extraordinary feats of mass production in refrigerated darkrooms on wheels. Third, is the planning work which translates the knowledge gained into plans for assault.

The enemy guards against photographic reconnaissance with a ferocity and skill that make the camera pilots' task dangerous. These pilots know as much about German flak as any fliers living; they know that they must face it if they are to get their pictures. For them there is no way round

The pilots are a picked team. Many had great records as fighter pilots before they took up this unsung job of the aerial "peeping Tom."

Here are some of the things these R.A.F. pilots must know if they are to do their reconnaissance properly. They must know about photography; they must be able, as they say, to "fling an aircraft about the sky", they must be able to fight.

The pilot's powers of observation are developed to an extraordinary degree. He can describe in detail the things he has seen, in order to augment the story told by the camera. For instance, he must be able to identify ships, to tell about radio installations, to bring back an idea of quantities of road traffic. If he flies over a marshalling yard he may be asked—and he must be able to tell accurately—how many trucks were there and how many of the locomotives had steam up.

The photographs taken are of two kinds—oblique and vertical. The oblique photograph is taken by a camera which "looks" out sideways and downwards from the fuselage. It may be taken from tree-top level or up to 500 feet and it gives a great deal of information which the vertical picture misses. But, of course, it brings the aircraft within reach even of small arms fire.

The automatic camera is unable to provide continuous pictorial cover at the low altitudes and high speeds which are necessary for these special reconnaissance jobs. So the pilot has to judge the moment exactly and press the camera button to take one vital picture. In a heavily defended area he does not get a second chance. Some of these single-shot pictures are taken when the aircraft is diving at more than 500 m.p.h. but the detail given by the superb cameras is clear and exact.

The vertical type of picture is a mosaic of overlapping photographs which cover stretches of country seen from heights ranging up to more than 30,000 feet. By having two cameras pointing slightly out of the vertical line, the pictures are made to overlap and so nothing is missed of what goes on on the ground.

SONNET TO BOMBAY

By Mohamed Majeed Khatkhatay

Proud Gateway of India! Royal Dowry from a far-off land,
B'fore majestic sea thy stature of stone doth listlessly stand
Unlike the pearly Taj, a mere legacy of love's dream,
Still glistering and gleaming besides but a humble stream!

Big mansions nigh taverns, slums, too, in the town abound,
Theatres, big business, what's not there to be found?
Much complex is thy rouged face, simplicity is lacking,
Riots, epidemics, hunger: on highways Death's walking!

Mosques, temples, churches; then make thee Holy not!
Crime, prostitution and many a such blot
Have degraded thee, Fair City! but thy many citizens
Left noble deeds, great works and services lasting all seasons:
Their golden endowments have made rich, beautiful and sacred
Those fragments of rocks that were the Dowry for a Queen to wed!

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THE WHITEWAY CHEMICAL WORKS, P.B. 320 Lahore

Pakistan X-rayed!

PAKISTAN—The Problem of India, by Dr. Shaukatullah Ansari, Minerva Book Shop, Anarkali, Lahore. Price: Rs. 3-8.

THE HOUSE THAT JINNAH BUILT, by B. G. Kaushik, Padma Publications, Ltd., Bombay, Price: Rs. 4-8.

Reviewed By K. A. ABBAS

Significantly enough here are two books—one by a Muslim and the other by a Hindu—both exposing the fallacy of Pakistan. Both represent sincere attempts, on the part of reasonable Hindus and Muslims, to resolve the deadlock created by the intransigence of Mr. Jinnah and the Muslim League by sticking to the Pakistan demand. Both are marked by sturdy patriotism and common sense.

But really they are two different types of books though they cover the same ground and come to the same conclusion. While Dr. Ansari's narrative is professorial, even didactic, Mr. Kaushik writes brisk and spicy journalese. The two titles, indeed, are keys to the books: "Pakistan—Problem of India" is dispassionate, well-documented, earnestly written, soberly-argued; while "The House That Jinnah Built" is impassioned, dialectical, occasionally rhetoric.

For And Against

Dr. Shaukatullah Ansari (nephew of the late Dr. Ansari) from whom he inherits his loyalty to the cause of national unity and freedom) is a physician by training and profession. But in his book he reveals the academic objectivity of a research scholar as well as the professional lawyer's ability to argue both sides of the case. He builds up his case painstakingly, almost laboriously, producing facts and figures and quotations to prove his point. The genesis of the Pakistan demand is traced from the earliest days and the two-nation theory is discussed, against the economic background, and exposed as a "myth—a camouflage to cover up humiliation in the social sphere and inequality in the economic sphere."

Dr. Shaukatullah Ansari strengthens, rather than weakens his case against Pakistan by devoting one whole chapter to "The Case For Pakistan." And he does it not in a half-hearted manner but conscientiously, putting together all the arguments of the protagonists of Pakistan—and putting them better than any of them has done so far. Indeed, this is the most valuable part of the book, for it "gives the devil his due" and focusses attention on the political, economic, psychological factors that have contributed to the popularity of the Pakistan slogan among Muslims. And even, while arguing "The Case Against Pakistan" (and he does it brilliantly and convincingly) he does it not only from the point of view of a patriot, but from the point of view of a Muslim and clearly shows that it would not be in the best interests of Indian Muslims themselves to shatter the unity of India. Incidentally, he blows up the myth fostered by certain alleged Marxists that the Pakistan demand conforms to the ideal self-determination granted to 'nationalities' in the Soviet Union.

This reviewer wishes Dr. Ansari's book is read by all those Muslim Leaguers who are still open to conviction, and they would realize that in their understandable anxiety to secure the protection of their legitimate rights they are running after a will o' the wisp. At the same time all true patriots ought to read it to learn the genesis of Pakistan for it is only by a large-hearted attempt to understand (and then remove) the grievances of the Muslims that nationalist India can hope to win back the loyalty of the Pakistan-obsessed Muslims.

"More In Pain Than In Anger"

Mr. Kaushik's emphasis is more on methods than on objectives. He is not so bitter about Pakistan as about the 'totalitarian' methods used by Mr. Jinnah and the other leaders of the League to popularize the Pakistan war-cry.

"This book", he says, "is written more in pain than in anger. This is a protest not against the existence of different view-points in the politics of India, but against the methods employed by one political party, the Muslim League, in achieving its objective—and not against the objective itself, if that objective be the promotion of the legitimate interests of the Muslim community. For, the writer grants they have a case, and they have a right to present it as best they can—but as fairly they must."

"The House That Jinnah Built" is a running commentary on the policies and programmes—and stunts, we might add—of the Muslim League and its 'Qaid-e-Azam' during the last half a dozen years. It frankly—and rightly—lays the blame for continued deadlock on the communal issue on the shoulders of Mr. Jinnah. Occasionally, Mr. Kaushik is bitterly sarcastic about the League leader. But throughout he is singularly free from any prejudice, much less hostility and bitterness against the Muslims as such. He has no sympathy for the Mahasabha brand of communalism. His 'tentative scheme of federation' is more than generous to Muslim sentiment—even to the extent of granting that "the head of the State (President or Prime Minister) shall be representative of Hindustan and Pakistan by rotation, with a five-year term of office and he shall choose the cabinet."

Unscrupulous 'totalitarian' propaganda is no doubt responsible for the Pakistan boom. But it would have added to the value of the book if Mr. Kaushik had more specifically discussed the role of the Hindu communalists in antagonising the Muslims and thereby strengthening the hands of the anti-national reactionaries and separatists among them. For "The House That Jinnah Built" had quite a lot of its bricks and stone and mortar supplied by Moonje, Savarkar, Parmanand & Co.

Rhymes For Children

HAPPY VERSES: By D. H. Thomas; Thacker & Co., Bombay; Price Rs. 3/12.

These are rhymes meant for children who have just finished with their nursery jingles. Though some of the verses are rather forced, the author has succeeded in selecting subjects which will interest and amuse his juvenile readers.

RAMEN'S COSMETIC & TOILET PREPARATIONS: By R. N. Dey; R. N. & Co. Dacca; Price Rs. 2/8.

The book emobodies a number of well-experimented formulae and will prove useful to small-scale manufacturers of cosmetics and toilet articles.

BOOKS AND THEIR AUTHORS

Books For Children

(i) HEFTY THE HATHI, By G. P. Hall, Rs. 2. (ii) PERCY THE PIGLET, By I. M. Matthews, Rs. 2. (iii) I MADE MY OWN DOLLS. By Thora Stowell, Rs. 6/14. (All published by Thacker & Co, Bombay).

The first two are little story-books, profusely illustrated, and will surely appeal to very young children.

I Made My Own Dolls tells all about cutting patterns and sewing them up to make various types of dolls. The paper patterns given with the book are very helpful. The book will prove of great interest to teachers of Hand-work.

C. N.

MILK

MILK AND MILCH CATTLE, By Sarabhai Prataprai. Pp. 51, As. 12. (Padma Publications Ltd., Bombay).

The author who has made a deep study of the subject, pleads that the cattle wealth of the country should be preserved through All-India Legislation, both for agricultural purposes and for the production and supply of milk. Britain protects milk supply by means of subsidies and encourages milk consumption through propaganda. U.S.A., Canada, Australia, have followed suit. In India, however, the increase of cattle has not kept pace with human population and the milking quality of Indian cattle has deteriorated. He makes concrete proposals (both to Government and to the public) for preventing malnutrition and further deterioration of the health of the people. The reasoned and well documented attempt of the author should help in speeding up Government action in the matter. So far as the masses are concerned, the book would have had a greater appeal, if it had been written in an Indian language.

N. H. P.

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

You remember, a photograph was published in this "Corner", in the time of November 12, with a suggestion that you may write a story depicting the same, and send it on to me for publication. I am very glad to see that a good number of my brothers and sisters attempted to write the story. The best, according to a friend, who judged them, is by sister Tripta K. Valia (14 years), of King's Circle, published below:—

Once upon a time there lived a young and poor boy. He lost his parents. So every day he used to go out begging for food. And in this way he managed to fill his belly.

One chilly cold morning, as he was warming his body near fire, a shivering monkey, thin, lean, and half-starved, came there. First young Abdul was afraid of the animal. But the monkey came very near the fire and sat there without doing any harm to Abdul.

After understanding that the monkey was starving, he went into his house and brought her some food to eat. And then the monkey stayed with him only. Everyday they used to share the food which Abdul used to beg.

One day an idea came to young Abdul's mind. He began to teach the monkey to clap hands, to carry things, to play, to do whatever he said, and also to cry and to laugh. The monkey very soon learned everything.

After giving her full training, he took the monkey to the market place. There he played with the monkey, while the people passing by gathered and enjoyed the fun. They paid something to Abdul as a rewrad for the display of his tricks.

Everyday Abdul began to repeat the self-same thing. The people, too, liked the monkey because she never hurt anybody even though the children played with her. Boys and girls would gather around her and offer to give her pice. Elderly persons also appreciated the monkey's clever tricks and paid for them to Abdul.

In this way Abdul collected much money. After every "show", he used to thank his friend—the monkey—for his assistance. So now Abdul was no more to beg. Once the monkey depended on Abdul and now he depended on her. How much change had time brought on them! May their friendship last long, and may they ever remain happy together!

* * *

I wish to tell you very briefly the experience of my first day at swimming, writes Brother Jagmohandas Gokaldas Vora (13 years), of Jafarabad. It was while returning from the school, all friends chatting together, that we hit upon going for a swim in the sea.

However, while my friends knew how to swim, I did not know it at all. Anyway, we took our bathing costumes and went to the sea-shore. On arriving there my friends got into the sea and began to dive But what was I to do?

One of my friends offered to teach me swimming. All asked me to enter the sea, and I had to submit to their persuation. We started to swim. Now, in the midway, I began to feel tired, and requested my friends to return to the shore....

I was terribly tired. And thoughts began to move quickly. Was I drowning? I began to remember my relatives and friends. What was to happen, really?....Then I caught sight of a fisherman, luckily. I girdled up my loins and got close to him....

I felt I was safe now: I requested the fisherman to carry me to the sea-shore, which he very kindly did. I thanked him for the trouble he had taken. In the meanwhile, my friends also had returned. And they began to laugh at me—well, we had a good time, and returned home rejoicing.

Swimming exercise is wholesome and of a great importance for our health. I do wish everyone should learn to swim. I myself have become a good swimmer by now. After one has learned to swim properly, he never fears water, and he never forgets the art of swimming.

* * *

Exactly three hundred ninety-nine boys and girls and Workers of the different Local Branches of the Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari went on their annual education excursion to Elephanta Caves on last Sunday, November 26. Children had a very happy time together, and thanks are due for the success of the trip, besides others, to Mr. D. K. Sen, Custodian of the Caves, who had very kindly made all necessary arrangements and explained to the party the beauties and significance of the carvings there. Mr. Abid Ali Jaferbhai, President of the occasion, gave a short history, and boys and girls danced and sang merrily inside the Caves. The sea-voyage was superb for the whole party!

Mr. Murlidhar D. Harite, Incharge, Hobbies and Handicrafts Section, has fixed up a programme of visiting the Bombay and Suburban Local Branches of the B. P. Balkan-ji-Bari, to advise them in that connection. He is also making an effort to arrange lectures by persons well-experienced in this field as well as demonstrations wherever possible. Besides, he has in view the idea of organising an All-Bombay Children's Art and Crafts Exhibition sometime in January. It is hoped that everyone concerned will co-operate with him for success in his efforts.

* * *

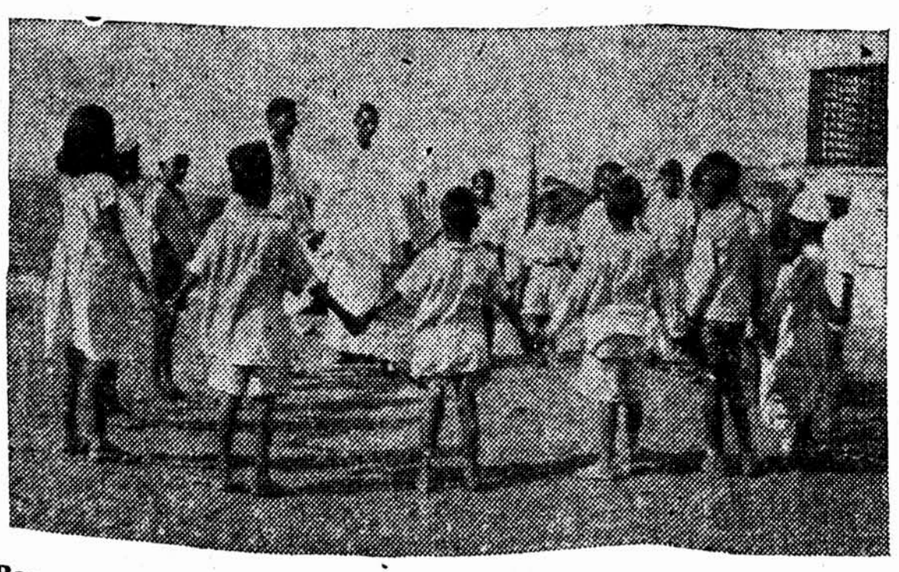
My little niece Bina, between three and four years of age, is just learning the alphabet and to count the numbers. When she counts one to twenty, she somehow leaves out 'fifteen' every time, and I have not been able to succeed yet in making her say that number after 'fourteen' and before 'sixteen.'

That apart, as she lips, it is very amusing to hear her trying her "A, B, Thee." Her brother, aged eight, was showing how clever he was by first going through the alphabet, and then saying its backwards beginning with 'Z'. Bina looked at him wonderingly for a few minutes; then she challenged him: "Now thory it thideways."

All Good Wishes from
Your Loving Dada

"GULISTAN", KHAR-BOMBAY, 21.

HUNGER DRIVING ONE IN THE "JAWS OF DEATH" (Drawn by Brother Anil Kumar Misra, 18 years, of Rairangpur).



Boys and girls of Kher Wadi Balkanji-Bari meet once a month for games, stories, songs, etc.

Many women have often asked us whether so-and-so can still continue to call herself by her husband's surname though she has been divorced.

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet." So said Shakespeare. It applies to women as much as to roses. And yet the proverbial vanity of women gets the better of both their charm as well as their beauty. Earl Cowley married the daughter of the Marquis of Abergavenny on 17th December 1889. They had a spasm of matrimonial bliss for eight years in course of which they had a son who, by courtesy, came to be called by his father's inferior title Viscount Dangan in accordance with English social conventions. In 1897 Countess Cowley obtained a decree for dissolution of marriage on the ground of the Earl's adultery as well as desertion and married a commoner, one Mr. Biddulph. Though her marital ties with the Earl were ripped asunder, she remained attached to her title.

Without any sanction from the Crown she continued to call herself "Countess Cowley" even after her remarriage with Mr. Biddulph. The Earl, her former husband, sought the Court's assistance to restrain her from doing so. The House of Lords to which the case ultimately went on appeal decided in favour of the Countess on the ground, that though she had no legal right to use the title, the Earl had suffered no damage by its use and was not entitled to an order restraining her from so calling herself, unless it be proved that she did it maliciously. As that was not proved, the Earl's application was dismissed.

* * *

No such case had ever arisen before. The law on the point has since been understood to be, that when a marriage has been dissolved or annulled on the petition either of the husband or the wife, the latter is entitled to call herself by her former husband's name or by any other name she may obtain by reputation provided that no one suffers any damage from such user, of which the law can take notice. But if Earl Cowley had remarried and the action had instead been brought by the new Countess Cowley, it seems to us that she would succeed where the Earl failed. Her title would be her incorporeal property and she could very well say that she found it extremely inconvenient to have another lady going as Countess Cowley.

As indicated by Lord MacNaghten his judgment in the Cowley case, of such damage the law would, perhaps, take notice. As such a case has not yet arisen, that point must still be regarded as doubtful. When it does arise some day, the fight between two women over a name or a title is sure to be very bitter—for so it is when two women fight, even over things much less after their heart.

* * *

Shamdasani's latest battle against the Central Bank has a history which reveals some interesting facts and figures—complaint filed on 22nd February 1930 in the Court of the then Chief Presidency Magistrate, the case was transferred from time to time and travelled from Court to Court and was ultimately decided fourteen years later by Mr. Coelho, Presidency Magistrate after 46 hearings on 2nd February 1944! It was filed against the Diectors, Secretary, Accountants and Auditors of the Central Bank—in all 12 persons—who were charged with having published a Balance Sheet of the Bank as at 31st December 1929 which was false in material particulars. Three of the Directors died and three others went out of office before the case concluded. Only six of the persons charged remained on the record to see the end of the case. The Magistrate discharged them holding the charge to be groundless, said that Shamdasani had launched the prosecution on the assumption that the Balance Sheet in question was false without satisfying himself that it was so, that he wanted the Bank itself to help him to verify that fact, and that all his applications for production of the Bank's documents for several years past were only attempts to rummage into the Bank's records to get an insight into them. Ultimately, on 14th November 1944 the High Court, in Revision, confirmed the order of the trial Court!

* * *

A curious case came before our High Court last week. A man had jumped into a well carrying with him his illegitimate child, because his mistress refused to give him the custody of his little two-year-old girl. He threatened to murder the child and commit suicide. His defence was that it was only an empty threat to coerce his mistress and that he was a good swimmer confident that no harm would result from jumping into a large well in pursuance of that threat. Spectators to this human drama found him floating in the well with the child on his chest, both unhurt. A prey to the complicated cross-currents of human emotion, to the struggle within him between love for his child and anger at his mistress' refusal to give him the custody of it, he did an act which was certainly rash and involved grave risk to the very object of his affection, which perhaps he overlooked in the frenzy of parental love. "A parent's love for his child is pure and unselfish—the highest of all human values. It is superior to the love of one's spouse in that it giveth more than it taketh and is not tarnished by the sex impulse. Little wonder then, that in the Divorce Court though very often neither spouse wants the other the real contest centres around the custody of the unfortunate child. The case we are considering shows that the illegitimacy of the child makes no difference in the strength of parental love. It is comforting to find that the kindly Mr. Justice Macklin and Mr. Justice Sen took a charitable view of the act, convicted the man of the minor offence of doing an act so rash as to endanger human life, and sentenced him only to three weeks' rigorous imprisonment which he had already undergone by then, so that he was at once set free on the disposal of the appeal. In the words of Burke, "The annals of criminal jurisprudence exhibit human nature in a variety of positions, at once the most striking, interesting and affecting. They present tragedies of real life often heightened in their effect by the grossness of the injustice, and the malignity of the prejudices which accompanied them. At the same time, real culprits as original characters, come forward on the canvas of humanity as prominent objects of our special study." The twenty-eight-year-old building worker of Bhusaval is certainly an object of special study of human nature, depicting how strangely it re-acts under the stress of conflicting passions.

* * *

An interesting question for the housewife arose recently before the Court of Appeal in England in the case of Blackwell vs. Blackwell. Married in 1925, husband and wife separated in 1941. At that date there were £103-10sh. standing to the credit of the wife in the books of the Oxford Co-operative Society, which were proved to be savings made by her from her husband's weekly housekeeping allowance to her. On behalf of Mrs. Blackwell it was contended that the keeping of a house was the occupation of a wife, and what she saved by her skill in that occupation belonged to her. The matter was taken up by women's organizations all over England and in Parliament. The Court held that as no gift of the amount by the husband to the wife was proved, the unused balance belonged to the husband. Disappointing as the decision must have been to women, it is not an unmixed blessing to men. It removes the little incentive there was to household economy by the housewife. Whatever its effect might be, the decision of the question cannot be otherwise. Though the Court of Appeal did not say so in so many words, the wife receives the house-keeping allowance as her husband's agent, and must, like any other agent of his, account to him for whatever remains over in her hands. We heard it said the other day that drapers and dressmakers celebrated the decision with great jubilation.

LAW AND LIFE

What's In A Name?

By JARVIM

The Waging Of Peace

By WICKHAM STEED

British public attention has now concentrated on two main issues. The first is the speedy winning of the war. The second is co-operation for peace and reconstruction, including social peace and reconstruction in Britain.

Britain's Air Minister has stated that the war is going well and that the "German beast" is desperate. This is the time, he added, for a supreme effort to finish the European war. He expected Germany to produce new weapons, less militarily futile than the flying bomb. The Allies he said, have hitherto surprised and surpassed the Germans with new inventions and will give them more surprises, but they must now break German resistance rapidly.

While Britain's Air Minister was speaking, 5,000 Allied aircraft were continuing the mass offensive against German communications and war industries. This offensive remains for the present the foremost feature of operations on the Western front. It is almost surely preparing the way for a tremendous land offensive.

Anglo-U. S. Co-operation

Desperately though the Germans have fought to hold the approaches to the port of Antwerp, all those approaches are now lost. Through Antwerp supplies will soon flow in vast quantities to complete the huge stocks already accumulated for a decisive action against Western Germany.

The Russian armies on the east and in Hungary are likewise exerting severe pressure on German defences. Whether or not German resistance is finally broken in 1944, the end cannot be long delayed and for this reason British attention focusses upon what President Roosevelt has called the "waging of peace" no less than upon the approaching end of war. British opinion agrees heartily with President Roosevelt's statement that peace must be "waged" by the major Allies in association with the United Nations, an association constantly growing.

Between Britain and Russia, co-operation will be close and lasting. British opinion welcomes Marshal Stalin's anniversary address to the Soviet Union. Since Britain and Russia will be the most influential of the European Allies they will be chiefly and jointly responsible for framing and fixing the character of peace in Europe. British views upon Russian policy are, therefore important.

Competent British observers are convinced that Russia has no expansive designs beyond her own borders in Europe. Like Britain, Russia demands security against a future war. Like Britain who has long regarded North-Western Europe, especially Holland and Belgium, as a region which must be preserved from domination by any great Continental Power, so Russia demands security on her western frontiers and the friendly independence of her smaller western neighbours.

Russia and Britain will share, as they hope the United States will also share, in preserving the whole of Europe from future aggression. They will agree upon the treatment of Germany, whom they will disarm and keep disarmed militarily, and as regards war industries also economically.

No Communist Propaganda

No fear is felt in any responsible British quarter that Russia will attempt to promote Communism throughout Europe. Yet it is also felt that the profound social and economic changes that have occurred in Western Europe, including Britain, during this war must be reflected in social and economic policies which will abolish unemployment, foster efficiency and improve standards of life.

No British effort will be made to restore the conditions that prevailed between 1919 and 1939. The recent debate in the House of Commons upon the Government's scheme for social insurance and freedom from want revealed intense earnestness and great unanimity among all Parties upon the realisation of this beneficent reform without avoidable delay.

Thus the concentration of British attention upon winning the war speedily in Europe and upon Allied co-operation for peace is linked with the determination to set a good example in social reconstruction at home. The task of "waging peace" internationally and socially lies ahead. The British people are convinced that this task can be—and are resolved that it shall be—successfully discharged.

Youth marches on...

Great opportunities await the women of India as well as the men. Don't let your daughter be left behind. Help her to join the W.A.C.(I) ...In this corps, she will be well cared for... gain new experience and learn a new job. This will undoubtedly lead to an assured future after the war.

HELP YOUR DAUGHTER TO JOIN THE

W.A.C INDIA

In commerce and industry, India is progressing rapidly and it is certain that many well-trained personnel (both men and women) will be needed for civil jobs when conditions return to normal. A W.A.C (I) training and the experience gained while serving in the corps, will equip many girls with the qualifications and administrative experience necessary for successful careers in civil life. For details of terms of service etc., apply to any of the following A.T.R.O.s/W.A.C.(I): Lahore—22, Davis Road • Rawalpindi—Gwyn Thomas Road • Lucknow—c/o T.R.O. Eastern, Hazratganj • Calcutta—c/o D.T.R.O., 28, Theatre Road • Madras—3/18, Mount Road. • Bombay—A.F.I. Building, Hospital Lane, Dhobi Talao • Poona—Staunton Road • Patna—c/o D.T.R.O., Exhibition Road • Bangalore—Cubbon Road. Or you may also apply to any Recruiting Office or W.A.C (I) Platoon Commander.

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The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

"What Is Happening In China?"

I put this question some months ago to a young Chinese intellectual passing through Bombay. For obvious reasons I cannot divulge his name but the reply that he gave me is worth recalling, now that everyone is asking the same question. In effect he said:

"There are two wars simultaneously going on in China—a war for national liberation, and a second war for democracy. The first one is being waged against Japan, the second is directed against all the reactionary forces within China that stand in the way of speedy democratisation of the country."

"Where does Marshal Chiang-Kai-Shek stand in both these wars?" I asked.

"He is the acknowledged and undisputed leader of the forces of national liberation. In the war for democracy he is yet a neutral. In another sense this second war for democracy is also a war for Marshal Chiang—both parties are eager to get him on their side. His past pulls him in one way, his future in another."

"Can't you postpone this second war", I asked, "till the first one is over and the country is rid of the Japs?"

"No, it cannot be done because the two wars are interlinked. Without democratic mobilisation of the people, and the suppression of reactionaries and exploiters, we cannot oust the Japs."

My final question was: "Are you, by any chance, a Communist."

"No I am not. I call myself a liberal—though I find the word is not held in high esteem in your country! In fact, having read your writings, I find I hold much the same views about the Chinese Communists as you hold about the Indian Communists. I don't agree with some of their policies but that does not make me think they are bandits or traitors. Any way, the problem of reconciling the Communists is only a small part of the larger problem of democracy in China. Sooner or later this problem is going to assert itself and when that happens I hope friends of China in India will not be confused, and will give us the same sympathy in our second war, as they have given us in the first."

*

The Incomplete Revolution

The first thing to remember about China, to my mind, is that that country had an incomplete revolution. Hardly had the Manchus been dethroned and a republic established than the country was torn between rival war-lords. After Dr. Sun Yat-Sen's death, Kuomintang, the revolutionary party, set itself as a dictatorship and the new democratic upsurge was suppressed by bureaucratic tyranny. This is how, with courageous candour, Lin Yutang described the situation in "My Country And My People" (written in 1936):—

"....here is a nation of fine soldiers but bad captains, fine businessmen but bad business policies, fine citizens, but bad statesmen, and fine democratic men but a bad republic. It only needs a system to put the nation in running order....."

"I would believe in a revolution, any revolution, and in a party, any party, that would replace the present government by Face,, ,Fate and Favour, by a government by law? These three have made the justice and the weeding out of corruption impossible."

Not only did the bureaucratic successors of the Manchus inaugurate an era of graft and corruption but also of fearful suppression of free thought and democratic ideology, which were branded as "Communistic" and held treasonable.

Inevitably, the forces of the left crystallized round the Communist Party and, placed on the defensive, fought back. One does not have to be Communist or even to agree with them to sympathise with the Chinese Communists who had to suffer so much. The story of the bitter Kuomintang—Communist Civil War, the Long March, the rehabilitation of the 'Red' Army in the remote north-west which all can be read in "The Red Star Over China" by Edgar Snow (who is NOT a Communist) need not be repeated here. But one has to keep it in mind while analysing and evaluating the present currents and cross-currents in Chinese politics.

Whether one accepts the Communist view that the Kuomintang was unjust in its war on Communists, or the Kuomintang view that the Central Government had to suppress every challenge to its authority, whether it came from a war-lords' rabble or a Communist army, the fact remains that before the Chinese revolution was complete and a stable, democratic government established, the country was plunged first into a Civil War and then into a war against a powerful enemy. The words of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen, uttered on the establishment of the republic, were almost prophetic: "The revolution has yet to be fought out. Comrades, hold on!"

*

The Enigma Of Marshal Chiang

What is one to make of the leader of China's 400 million people? The successor of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen is one of those men of destiny on whom the final judgment of history has yet to be passed. He is said to have been ruthless in his dealings with the Chinese Communists. He is alleged to be surrounded by men, quite a few of whom are reactionaries, anti-democratic, fascistically-inclined. In his book "China's Destiny" he is stated to have expressed anti-democratic anti-foreigner chauvinistic views.

And yet he is today the visible symbol and undisputed leader of the forces of liberation in China. He is to China, what Churchill is to Britain, what Stalin is to the Soviet Union—the unifier and the saviour in his country's darkest hour. He was not being immodest but literally correct when he said:—

"Wherever I go there is the Government, the Cabinet and the Centre of resistance. The outcome of the war will be determined not by the loss of a few cities but by how the Leader directs the people in resistance."

Even the Chinese Communists seem to agree that resistance without Chiang is impossible. They are severely critical of the reactionary clique around him (some of whom have been removed in the recent Cabinet reshuffle) but they still (at least formally) owe allegiance to the Generalissimo as the head of the nation. Edgar Snow, who had many critical things to say of Chiang in his previous writings, paints a very balanced picture of him in his "Battle of Asia":—

"It would be unimaginable that the years and the bombs have not altered Chiang Kai-Shek.....

"Indications of Chiang's personality and leadership are to be found in his posession of these qualities: tenacity, decision, ruthlessness, energy, ambition, initiative, and deep love of power.....

"Much of the greatnes attributed to him is merely symbolic of a synthesis of forces.... But we all live by symbols in times of stress.....

"That observation can in no way minimize the significance of Chiang Kai-Shek's personal influence nor of his dominating position. It does not alter the size of his achievements and his stubborn defence of China's national integrity..... His steadfastness under this test has helped to stamp China for independence with the dignity of one of the heroic causes of our time.

Historic forces throw up historic figures. The Russian revolution threw up Lenin. The Indian freedom struggle has thrown up Gandhi and Nehru. China's epic of anti-Japanese resistance has thrown up Chiang,—a personality and a force to be reckoned with despite his 'Save-me-from-my-friends' associates and carping critics

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How Red The Reds?

After many years of hostility and civil war, a United Front was established in China in 1936 between the Kuomitang and the Communists—a United Front to fight the Japanese. But old prejudices and suspicions die hard and even after eight years the relations between the two parties are not as cordial as one might have wished. The Communists allege (and neutral observers substantiate the allegation) that some of the best crack troops of the Central Government are not fighting the Japanese but blockading the Communist areas in the north-west; further, that some of the highest placed officials in Chungking are appeasers and fascistically-inclined. They also allege that while their armies (Eighteenth Route and Fourth Route) and their guerillas have borne the brunt of the enemy attacks, they have received precious little material from Chungking. The Kuomintang replies that the Communists are not yet completely loyal to the Central Government and are consolidating their own independent authority in the guerillas areas. It is understandable how both sides are liable to exaggerate matters—as, for instance, when some of our more volatile Indian 'Comrades' tell us that Chiang's armies are not fighting the Japs at all but only preparing to fight the Communists; or, when the more rabid upholders of the Kuomintang assert that the Communists are not really interested in the United Front or in fighting Japan, but only in the spread of Communism.

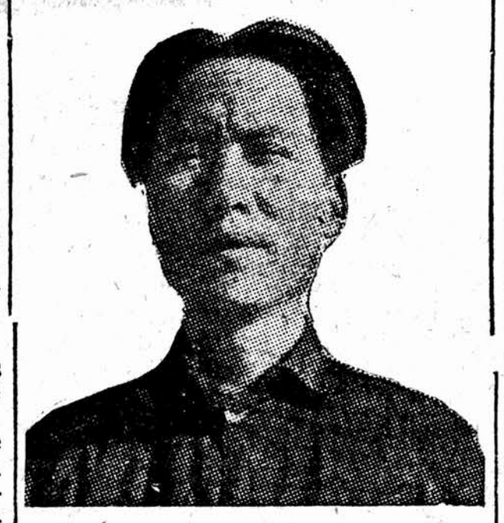
But 'Communism' itself has a new connotation in China. Lin Yutang once wrote that "foreign isms, even the most fast-dyed and fadeless kind, lose colour in a Chinese laundry."

Eve Curie, in her book "Journey Among Warriors" quotes an American correspondent as saying, "The Chinese Communists, my dear, are somewhat to the right of Mr. Roosevelt"—implying that they are not even "pink".

There is other evidence, too. As early as 1923, when there was the most cordial friendship between Dr. Sun Yat-Sen's new government and the Soviets, the Russian Ambassador, Mr. Joffe, had stated that "The Soviet system could not actually be introduced into China because there did not exist the conditions for the successful establishment of either Communism or Sovietism."

That after 21 years, this is still the official view of the Communists can be substantiated by the following quotation from Mao Tse-tung's pamphlet, "China's New Democracy":—

"The question may be asked: Is it possible for China to follow at this stage the road of Socialism, of



MAO TSE TUNG
Socialism—not yet!

proletarian dictatorship, if she is not to take that of Capitalism, of bourgeoisie dictatorship?

"It is not possible."

"Though it goes without saying that the first step of the revolution which we are contemplating to-day will one day inevitably develop into the second step i.e., Socialism, and only in the realm of Socialism can China become prosperous, yet the present is no time to practise it. Socialism is out of the question before the tasks of the revolution, the tasks of anti-Imperialism and anti-feudalism are fulfileed. The Chinese Revolution can only be achieved in two steps: (a) New Democracy; (b) Socialism."

In the Border Regions the Communists,—controlled administration, by public declaration, guarantees "civil and PROPERTY rights", including, specifically, "the right of private property", and lays down that "Communists should occupy only ONE THIRD of the list of candidates nominated (for any representative administrative organisation), so as to enable all parties, groups and non-partisan people to participate in the activities of representative organs."

It is hardly the frightening picture of a bloody revolution which the anti-Communists would like to conjure! Indeed, from all neutral evidence, the Chinese Communists are TO-DAY only demanding clean government and extension of democracy, which the non-Communist liberals like Madame Sun Yat-Sen and Dr. Lin Yutang have been demanding for so long. Both Agnes Smedly and Edgar Snow (neither of whom, despite popular misconception, is a Communist) who have spent years in China's north-west, testify to the sincerity, ability and patriotism of the Chinese Communist leaders like Mao Tse-Tung and Chu Teh, the democratic and progressive nature of the administrations set up by them, and the heroic valour with which their armies and guerillas have been fighting the enemy.

CHIANG KAI-SHEK
Democracy—not yet?

It would be doubly unfortunate if, old suspicions and prejudices kept alive by vested interests and reactionaries, are allowed to disrupt the Anti-Japanese United Front arrangement between the Communists and the Central Government.

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Legacy Of Sun Yat-Sen

The spirit of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen is a living influence in China. His *San Min Chu I* (Three Principles)—Nationalism, Democracy, People's Livelihood—are still the guiding principles by which every one in China (Communist or Kuomintang) swears. His widow, Madame Sun Yat-Sen, lived long in retirement after her husband's death because she did not like the reactionary swing the Kuomintang had taken. Never a Communist, she had leftist sympathies and all liberal, socialist, democratic groups have always looked up to her. Back in her country's affairs, she holds a position in China to-day similar to that of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in India—the link between the Right and the Left!

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen's son, Sun Fo, President of the Legislative Yuan (Department) of the Chinese Government, is another important figure. I have been tipped off by Chinese friends to watch him as the coming man of China. He is the leader of the leftwing in the Kuomintang and has been in the forefront of the movement for greater democracy in China. He is a great admirer of the Soviet Union and has been mentioned as the next likely Ambassador to Moscow. He believes in state ownership of heavy industry. He has openly condemned the "corrupt gentry and rapacious landowners" who have made village government a mockery of democracy. "These corrupt oppressors of our people," he declared, "must be deprived of their power if a truly democratic government is to be built up in this country." In the same address he criticised the "heel-clicking, thought—befuddling method of training our youth"—obviously a reference to regimentation of thought and education aimed at by the Right wingers in Kuomintang—and went on to say that "the talk about our peoples' inexperience for self-government is sickening"—a statement which is in sharp contrast with Marshal Chiang's view that the time has not yet come to remove Kuomintang "tutelage." He wants Chungking to give up "undemocratic policies" and to establish local self-government as a first step to complete democratization of China.

The demand for greater democracy in China is thus growing within the Kuomintang itself and cannot be dismissed as a Communist agitation. It was to this aspect of the situation that my Chinese friend was referring when he said, "There is not one but two wars".

*

C. C.

"Generally speaking", a Chinese commentator wrote four years ago," the Kuomintang people somehow tend to think that to defeat Japanese imperialism is 'not difficult' but to control the rising democratic influence in China is not an easy matter."

Who are these anti-democratic personages around Marshal Chiang who fear the rise of the people?

There is first of all the *Erh-Chen Pai* (the Two-Chen Clique of the 'C. C.')..Chen Li-fu and Chen Kuo-fu, party bosses and old associates of Chiang who are reputed to be the "power behind the appeasement clique." Whether they are pro-Japs and appeasers or not, they have certainly been associated with anti-de-

Continued On Page 11

On Being A Famous Author

by

Aamir Ali

Having read the title of this article you must not run away with the impression that the author of it is a famous one, and is about very kindly to tell you how it feels to be a famous author. Because if you do run away with such an impression, you will be wide off the mark. Not that I really object to your thinking that I am a famous author, or famous anything for that matter, but after all, truth must be allowed to have a few claims.

What I am going to tell you in this delightful and well-written article, (showing promising signs of a budding famous author) is how anyone in general and I in particular set about becoming a famous author. To start at the start of the long story.

Early in life, (I modestly confess that I was rather a precocious youngster) I decided to be a very rich and famous man when I grew up. Not that there is anything mercenary about me, but I realised like a practical man of the world, that fame could hardly come without wealth. Having reached this most important decision, the next and obvious step was to decide how I would become famous. My first, and rather childish idea was to become the king. That would simplify matters, as I would then be the richest man in the world and certainly the most famous.

I clung to this idea for a long time, but as time passed and wisdom and sorrow accrued to my greying hairs, I realised that it was not the king who was the important man in a country, but the Prime Minister. Look at King What's-his-name? Victor Emmanuel and Mussolini. So I changed my mind and decided to be a Prime Minister. But time and patient research revealed some rather awkward obstacles on the way to become a P. M. and so I began to look for other roads to fame and wealth.

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I cast my eyes to right and left, in search of some worthwhile position. There was the Viceroyship, of course, but that carried with it certain inherent difficulties, such as the liability to be bombed, the need for wearing stiff collars and so on. The Presidency of the U. S. A., I admit, attracted me for a brief period, so did the invention of a new sort of aeroplane or submarine or something, but none of these professions were entirely free from certain disadvantages and difficulties. I believed I could have invented the radio, but Macaroni had forestalled me. So it was with most things. They all seemed to have been invented. Hardly cricket on the part of Edison and Co. but there you are. They might have left something for me to invent, but I found they hadn't. Even electricity and gunpowder had been invented.

The prospect was gloomy, but my indomitable courage refused to be domitable. I struggled on, kept alive during those dark and bitter times only by the determination to meet and overcome and triumph victoriously over all obstacles. You can imagine better than I can describe, my dear readers, the despondency and horror that wedged me in from all sides, and the courage and fire of spirit that I needed to ward off these desperate thoughts, and continue to think of ways and means to become famous. Every avenue to fame seemed closed to me, yet I struggled grimly on, and at last my perseverance was rewarded.

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At long last I saw a bright ray of hope come piercing through the darkness down to me. I felt inspired, and if I had been in my bath tub at that time, I would have jumped out of it and shouted Eureka! Or perhaps it would be truer to say that I would just have shouted "Eureka", because I do not have a bath tub. Anyway, in a heaven-sent flash all my despair was banished, and I saw what I had been striving to see for so long. I saw my path to fame and glory. Art! What could be nobler than to be famous through art! Look at Rembrant and Michael Angel, and Beatheaven and Bottlecherry and all the rest of them. I would emulate and outshine them all.

I have given my thought-processes in great detail, because it is always important and interesting to know how the mind of a great writer worked, from his earliest days. Look at Wordsworth. He wrote a long autobiography on the growth of his mind. Of course no one reads it but then Wordsworth is not half as famous as I am going to be. Besides he wrote his in verse.

—So I did a lot of hard work

Having decided to achieve fame through art, the next problem for me to solve was, which branch of art should I honour, Music, painting, sculpture, the plastic arts, (I suspect that this is the same as sculpture, but it sounds so much more dignified, I thought you would not object if I mentioned it), poetry or literature. Music appealed to me at first, and I thought of becoming a second and greater Tansen or something, but after spending a few profitless hours trying to make up my mind whether to buy a piano or a vina, I came to the conclusion that I was not cut out for a musician. Anyway, I could not afford a piano. The only musical instrument within my means was a mouth organ. Then I thought of painting and acquiring fame, and incidentally doing much cultural good to my country by painting another Ajanta. But the idea of digging all those caves in hard stone appalled me, and I dropped the idea.

*

There remained the plastic arts and literature. Not knowing what plastic arts meant, left me no choice but to plump for literature. I realised that this was a wise choice for I knew I had certain literary abilities. Once, when I was in school, I had written an essay on either "On Being Kept In", or "On Being Caned." I forget which, was the best in the class.

Now half my battle was won. I had made up my mind as to how to achieve fame. All that was left was to go ahead and achieve it. Perhaps all this talk of my ambitions and ideals has given you the notion that I am one of those impractical dreamers who see visions and dream dreams, but who are completely out of touch with reality. Nothing of the sort. No one could be more of a realist, or more practical than I. I immediately went to the Library to find out what books there were on "How to be a Famous Author." There were several which seemed to have some bearing on the subject, and I set my back to it, and began to do serious research. Books on how to write novels, on how to write short stories and on merely how to write.

I had decided to write a best-selling novel. Nothing could bring fame and lucre in larger quantities than such an exploit. A real hot-selling novel that would sell about 500,000 copies in the first month and so on. The rights for the book or something would be bought up by a film company, and a technicolour film made of it. The placards and hoardings would announce, "The stirring best-seller from the pen of the well-known author,—now becomes a heart throbbing film. The film of the century. You cannot afford to miss it,——etc., etc."

*

Publishers would run kowtowing to me and beg me to write something for them. All the editors of famous magazines would implore me to spare them a few words. Headlines would announce a new book by me; any magazine lucky enough to get an article from me would advertise that, and increase its sales ten fold. Publishers and film producers would offer me blank cheques. I would be asked to tour the world giving lectures. People would——. There is no end to such a rosy picture. Yes, all in all, it was worth becoming a famous author.

To return to where we were. I was deep in the study of how to write. One book told me that I should not be afraid of hard work. So I wasn't afraid of hard work. Another book was more blatant. It told me that I could never become a good writer unless I did hard work. So I did a lot of hard work. My neighbour was about to get married, and was trying to make his garden look more respectable, in order to welcome his spouse, better half, mate, bride, partner, wife, lady-love. He was having a lot of trees cut. So I put on my shorts, rolled up my sleeves, and helped him. And any one who tells you that the supervising of trees being cut is not hard work simply knows nothing about the matter.

The learned books told me to be content with small beginnings. So I was content with very small beginnings. In fact I was fairly well satisfied with no beginnings at all. Then I began. In order to work myself up to a best-selling novel, I began with short stories. It might interest you to know how I wrote my first story. You might have read it, but it is unlikely, because it has not been published as yet, though I am keeping it very carefully, as people will clamour for it the moment I become famous.

Well, anyway, I sat down at my desk, and prepared to think of a "—gripping plot that would hold the interest of the readers from beginning to end." I decided to have a hero——. But perhaps you are not interested in my hero? No, I thought you wouldn't be. No one ever is. But you will see, by and by; you will see.

(To Be Continued)

How Indian Officers Are Selected

(By Our Special Correspondent)

On a lovely hill station on the Western Ghats the General Headquarters have got an Officers' Selection Board, which is known as No. 6 G. H. Q. Selection Board. This one is the latest addition specially meant to cater the needs of Bombay Presidency. Hithertofore our boys had to go for their tests outside Bombay. All this is, of course, part of the newly started intensive drive for recruitment of suitable officers to the Indian Defence Services.

The Board is based on the same lines as other similar boards in England and the rest of the British Empire, which are the outcome of years of experimentation. These boards are expected to ensure only selection of deserving and fittest candidates as officers.

A part of Bombay journalists visited No. 6 Board a few days ago and had the opportunity of making a detailed survey of its functioning.

When we arrived there a fresh batch of more than two dozen candidates was already there. They were divided into three groups for convenience. We the journalists stayed at the Board for three days. We were afforded every facility to see for ourselves how the tests are conducted. We mingled freely with both the examiners and the examined.

Now, there is a tendency among the rejected candidates to run down the mode of selection. Most of the boys that are rejected are either graduates or undergraduates who feel that just because they hold academic qualifications they are quite up to the officer's mark. That is a wrong notion. Actually the Board does not even care if the candidate has no academic qualifications at all. So many non-matrics are often selected, the reason for which will be given presently.

BASIC INTELLIGENCE TEST

All the candidates have to submit to basic intelligence tests based on psychological methods. There is a test, for instance, which shows the high, medium or low calibre of the candidate's intelligence. Then, there are several other tests which are applied by the psychologist of the Board. All these tests give clear indications of not only the candidate's intelligence but also reveal his character and furnish a clue to his emotional reactions. Thus the phychologist is able to judge whether the candidate is fit to be an officer or not. In slightly doubtful cases a candidate has to appear for a fresh test after some time. The finishing touch to the phychologist's findings is given by the psychiatrist of the Board whose searching questions bring out from the candidate who goes before him, truths about himself. Both the opinions of the psychologist and the psychiatrist are kept in their separate files pending the final conference.

In the meanwhile the candidate goes through other forms of tests. On all the three days that we were there the three groups had their respective tests. They had to deliver pithy lecturettes, indulge in group discussions and formulate plans of action. All this was obviously meant to find out the adaptability of the candidate for a military career and particularly in discerning his qualities of leadership.

TESTING PHYSICAL ENDURANCE

The most interesting part of the testing system was the test applied to find out the candidate's physical endurance. These are of three kinds. Individual obstacles, group tasks and command tasks. The individual test shows physical endurance and quickness of decision. The group and command tasks show the qualities of leadership inherent in a candidate.

Before the tests begin the candidates are given a talk by the President of the Board familiarising them with their new environment. After the tests are over and before the final conference at which the fate of the candidate is decided the President again delivers a farewell message congratulating those who will pass and to those who fail his advice invariably is not to be disheartened. Failure to be selected as an army officer does not mean that a candidate could not make a success of himself in other walks of life. "You might be first class Judges or Barristers or equally successful businessmen", he said in his valedictory address to the boys who were with us and stressed that their rejection only meant that they were not suitable for the leadership of soldiers and the army always construed that a bad officer was nothing better than a murderer.

THE CONFERENCE

Now to the Conference. The psychologist reads out his report on the candidate, the psychiatrist follows him, the Group Testing Officer then gives his opinion, the Civilian Member of the Board says what he thinks of the candidate and, finally, the President of the Board who also interviewed the candidates during the tests comes out with his opinion. All the opinions are recorded in black and white. If all the members agree that the candidate is O.K. the candidate is selected like a shot. If there are differences the candidate is only rejected if the President feels satisfied that he is unlikely to make good at the Officers' Training School.

The President of the Board who sat with us was Lt. Col. Raza. He is an experienced Indian officer and felt rather proud when he told us pressmen. "Do you think that I came here to let down the cause of Indian boys"? That is true every bit, not only he but every member of the entire Board which consists of Indian and European officers is strictly impartial and judges the candidates strictly on merits. When candidates are selected by the Provincial Boards and the recently started Officers' Selection Touring Teams it does not mean that the Final Selection Board will also select them. Only the fittest are kept and the rest rejected; but the boys have nothing to be sorry for as the Army very much appreciates the candidates' offer of their services. They are always welcome to join in the ranks and work their way up.

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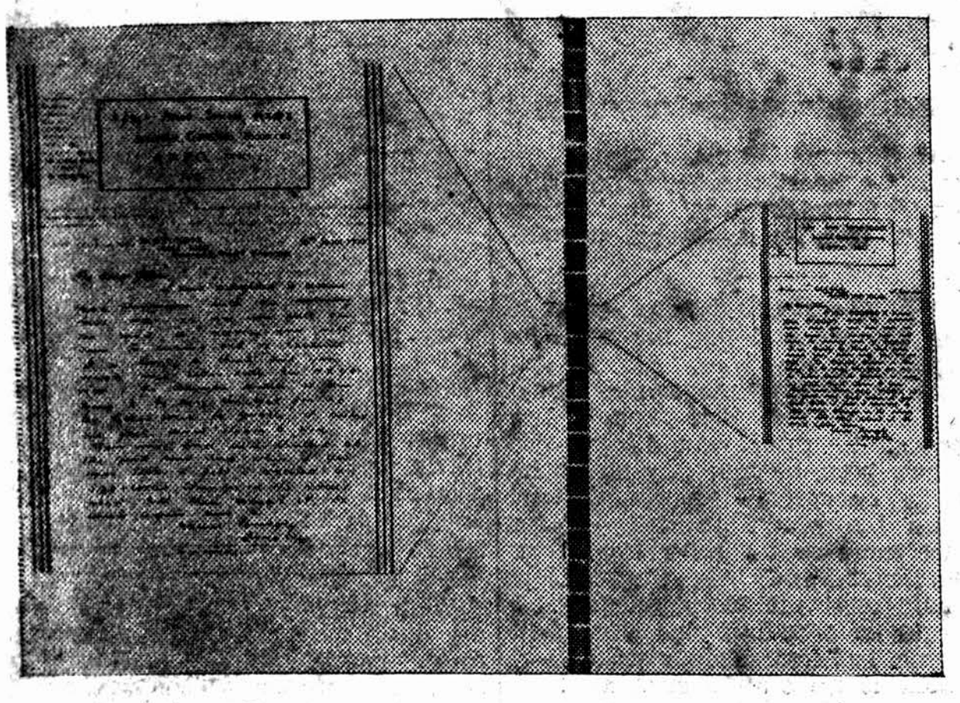
SAYING IT WITH AIRGRAPHS



This picture, in three parts, tells the tale in brief.

Left: Here is a reduced scale photograph of an airgraph form and letter.

Centre: This is the form in which it is sent—half inch square photographic negative.

Right: And this is how it looks when it reaches the recipient—the film has been enlarged and a reproduction made by the receiving station.

Sealed tins of airgraph films being despatched to the airfield. Each tin usually contains 200 feet of film, or 3,000 airgraphs.

Here is a roll of airgraph enlargements being "chopped" for despatch to different addresses.

Inspecting the film before despatch.

20,000,000 Sent Last Year

The airgraph service has become more popular from year to year since its inception in February 1942. In that month it carried about 100,000 letters; two years later, in March 1944, it carried 19 times that number; and in the last financial year more than 20,000,000 airgraphs were despatched from India

Airgraphs, which were introduced to help to ease the shortage of freight capacity on aircraft during wartime, are a great space saver. One hundred of them weigh as much as one ordinary air mail letter. Neither accident nor enemy action can stop them from reaching their destination; for, should a batch of airgraphs be lost in transit, the original message is traced from the country of origin, rephotographed and transmitted again.

The Technique

This is how the airgraph system works. A half inch square photographic negative of the letter to be delivered is made in the country of origin and sent throughout by air. (While 1 lb. of ordinary air mail averages 30 letters, 1 lb. of film, including the spool and container, takes about 3,000 airgraphs). At the destination a 5"x4" photographic facsimile of the original message is made from the film and delivered to the addressee.

An airgraph form now costs eight annas but will cost only four annas from December 1. Members of His Majesty's Forces on active service can buy it for three annas. The form, when filled in, may either be handed at the counter of a post office or sent inside an unstamped cover direct to the Airgraph Section, G.P.O., Calcutta, if posted in Bengal, Assam, Bihar or Orissa, and to the Airgraph Section, G. P. O., Bombay, if posted in any other part of India.

Photos, Too

The airgraph service is at present available from India for more than 15 countries including the United Kingdom. Eire, Canada, Newfoundland, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji Islands, the British North African Force, the Allied Armies in Italy and the Middle East Force. It is also available to His Majesty's Forces in India (1) for the forces stationed at Gibraltar and (2) for civilians in British West African territories.

The service can be utilised for writing letters and for advising remittances in code by approved banks. Photographs should not be affixed to airgraph forms, but airgraphs bearing purely personal and domestic photographs directly produced on a sensitised replica of the airgraph form will now be accepted for any destination to which the airgraph service is available. The rates of postage will be the same as for ordinary airgraphs. These sensitised forms are not supplied by the post offices, but service in this line is given by approved professional photographers in all large cities.

Printed and Published for the Bombay Chronicle Co., Ltd., by MICHAEL ANDRADES, at the "Bombay Chronicle" Press, Red Building, Parsi Bazaar Street, Fort, Bombay.